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Egyptian police smash drug ring

CAIRO (R) — Police have smashed one of the biggest drug rings supplying opium and heroin to the Middle East and Europe, a senior Egyptian anti-narcotics official said Friday. He said police ambushed a boat stashed with four tonnes of opium, two tonnes of hashish and 300 kilograms of heroin near a remote spot on the Red Sea coast at dawn Thursday. All 10 men on board the 87-tonne freighter Reef Star were arrested, Major General Mohammad Abbas of the Anti-Narcotics General Administration (JANGA) told Reuters. The drugs, worth more than 300 million Egyptian pounds (\$130 million), were hidden in gas cylinders and sacks in a secret compartment beneath the captain's cabin, he said. Abbas said the gang was "the largest international drug ring which produces, processes and smuggles narcotics to the Middle East and Europe." About 20 policemen in civilian clothes approached the Reef Star in two launches, fixed rope ladders to its side and boarded. Its crew of four Sudanese, two Bangladeshis, a Kenyan, a Tanzanian, an Indian and a Somali were asleep and were seized immediately the drugs were discovered. Abbas said the Reef Star had sailed from Pakistan.

Helsinki accord still far away

VIENNA (AP) — The chief U.S. delegate to the stalled Helsinki conference said Friday the meeting "still has a long way to go," despite some progress in the human rights field by the Soviet Union and its allies. The conference, set to start Friday, but delegates say it is likely to continue into the fall. Despite "some fairly substantial progress in a number of areas, including, of course, the Soviet Union, there is still a long way to go," he said. The U.S. chief delegate, Warren Zimmerman, told reporters. The Vienna meeting, attended by the Soviet Union, the United States, Canada and all European states except Albania, began in November 1986 to review compliance with the 1975 Helsinki accords on military security in Europe, economic cooperation and humanitarian issues, including human rights. The delegates have been deadlocked over a final document. Western delegates say the document should advance the provisions contained in the 1975 accords and documents concluded at previous follow-up meetings.

AROUND THE WORLD...

U.N. demands immediate release of hostage

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council Friday unanimously condemned the abduction last February of a U.S. marine serving as a U.N. observer in Lebanon and demanded his immediate release. It also called on member states "to use their influence in any way possible" to secure the release of the officer, Colonel William Higgins, Higgins' wife Robin, who earlier had a meeting with Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, was present when the resolution was adopted. The council also unanimously approved a six-month extension of the mandate of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon, (see related story on page 5).

Egypt denies Afghan arms supply

MOSCOW (R) — An Egyptian official denied Friday his country had supplied arms to Afghan rebels fighting the Soviet-backed Kabul government. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali told a news conference in Moscow: "Our country supplies weapons to more than 20 countries. Weapons reached the Afghan opposition from other sources, not from Egypt which stands for a peaceful solution to the problems pertaining to Afghanistan."

Embassies said cutting Kabul missions

ISLAMABAD (R) — Diplomatic missions in Kabul are sending non-essential staff and dependants home after an intense rocket barrage on the Afghan capital last week, a Western diplomat said Friday. Concern for the safety of staff and their families in Kabul had prompted at least four European nations to order some people home, he said. Several Middle Eastern states and at least one large Asian country were said to be following suit.

U.S., Greece still at odds

ATHENS (R) — The United States and Greece remain at odds over the future of American military bases here after an eighth round of talks closed Friday, a Greek government spokesman said. "There continues to be a difference of view," the spokesman told reporters. A new round of talks will be held in September.

Genscher begins three-day visit to Moscow

BONN (R) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher arrived in Moscow Friday for talks with Soviet leaders. The three-day visit, Genscher's first for a year, is aimed at paving the way for a trip to Moscow by Chancellor Helmut Kohl in October and will also focus on efforts towards conventional arms reduction in Europe.

Dukakis leads Bush by 17 percentage points

WASHINGTON (R) — Democratic presidential nominee Michael Dukakis holds a 17 percentage point lead over Republican rival George Bush, according to a Wall Street Journal/NBC poll published Thursday. The poll, taken last Saturday after the Democratic national convention, showed Dukakis with a 51 to 34 per cent lead over Bush among those people most likely to vote in the Nov. 8 election. Dukakis had a 12 percentage point lead in the poll before the convention.

Thatcher heads for Far East

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was to leave Friday on a 12-day visit to Australia and five other countries, aimed mainly at marking the 200th anniversary of European settlement in Australia. Thatcher, who was spending Friday night in Bahrain, was also due to go to Oman and Singapore en route to Australia, and to pay official visits to Malaysia and Thailand on the way home.

Seoul names team for border talks

SEOUL (AP) — The National Assembly Friday appointed 15 delegates for parliamentary talks with North Korea on various tension-reducing measures and the Olympic games. National Assembly officials said a South Korean letter proposing the talks will be delivered to North Korea through Panmunjom, the border truce site. Monday. The letter will also ask North Korea to send an equal number of delegates to the border village for the talks, the officials said.

ICAO experts arrive in Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — A five-man team from the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) arrived in Tehran Friday to investigate the shooting down of an Iranian jetliner by an American warship, which killed 290 people. The official Islamic Republic News Agency said the team was due to visit Tehran international airport, where part of Iran's air traffic control network is based. It will later travel to Bandar Abbas airport in southern Iran from where the Airbus jetliner took off on a brief scheduled flight to Dubai July 5. The officials also will go to the area where the plane crashed into the sea near the Iranian island of Hengham in the Strait of Hormuz, the Iranian agency said.

Two Israeli-backed militiamen wounded

MARIYOUN, Lebanon (R) — Resistance fighters overnight wounded two Israeli-backed militiamen in South Lebanon, security sources said Friday. They said Hizbollah (Party of God) and other fighters Thursday night fought machinegun battles with the South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia. The Islamic Resistance said in a statement they killed or wounded several SLA militiamen in the attack.

N. Yemeni president reappoints premier

SANAA (R) — North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh reappointed Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani as prime minister and told him to form a new cabinet, an official decree stated Thursday. Abdul Ghani, 48, prime minister since 1975, resigned with his 16-man cabinet earlier this month after Saleh was re-elected for a third five-year term. The prime minister is expected to inject new blood into his cabinet, diplomats said.

Somalia, Ethiopia complete POW talks

NAIROBI (AP) — Somalia has agreed to release 3,507 Ethiopian prisoners of war (POWs) and one Cuban and Ethiopia, in turn, will free 225 Somalis, all of them captured during a 1977-78 war, the official Somali Radio reported Friday. The agreement was concluded Thursday after four days of talks between an Ethiopian delegation led by Defence Minister Mesfin Gebrekral and Somali officials, said Radio Mogadishu. The talks were held in Mogadishu, the Somali capital. Most of the POWs were captured during the East African neighbours' war 11 years ago over the Ogaden.

'Revolutionary Guards minister jailed'

BEIRUT (AP) — Iran's Revolutionary Guards Minister Mohsen Rezaei has been in a Tehran prison for the past three weeks, the Beirut newspaper Al-Diyar reported Thursday. The newspaper said the order for Rezaei's arrest was issued by Hashemi Rafsanjani, the powerful speaker of Iran's parliament.

Jordan scraps W. Bank development plan

Arafat due here this week for talks on ties

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Economics Correspondent

AMMAN — Palestine Liberation

Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat is expected here this week for talks with Jordanian leaders following the Kingdom's decision Thursday to abandon its

development plan for the Israeli-occupied West Bank, official sources have confirmed. The sources said the PLO leader would be holding talks on a broad outline of future Jordanian-Palestinian relations after the Kingdom's partial disengagement from the occupied territories.

A Cabinet statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the decision was taken after a long and difficult process. The statement said the decision was taken after a long and difficult process. The statement said the decision was taken after a long and difficult process.

King, Assad exchange views

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday telephoned Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and exchanged views on current Arab issues. The telephone conversation came within the framework of continuous consultations between the two leaders.

Top-level Jordan-Egypt panel opens talks today

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee opens meetings here Saturday co-chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and his Egyptian counterpart Atef Sedki.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the committee would review means to bolster bilateral cooperation in political, economic, commercial, agricultural, informational, transport, and telecommunications fields.

The committee will also review progress in the implementation of projects carried out in all these fields and bilateral coordination of efforts to ensure their success, the agency said.

The Egyptian prime minister arrived here Friday morning for the three-day meeting accompanied by his ministers of foreign affairs, planning, housing, transport, telecommunications, power, industry, economy and trade, education and manpower and other officials.

Upon arrival, the Egyptian delegation was received by Rifai and other cabinet officials. Answering reporter's ques-



Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki speaks to reporters upon his arrival in Amman Friday. Sedki was received at the airport by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai (Petra photo)

tions, Sedki said he was carrying a letter from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to His Majesty King Hussein on "the latest developments in the region." He did not elaborate.

Sedki said the joint committee's meeting reflects the success of Jordanian-Egyptian cooperation in various fields.

"The reason behind these meetings is our desire and assurance to continue the march of cooperation between both countries in various fields," Sedki said.

He added: "I am very optimistic for what we have achieved so far."

Ibn Ali calls for reform

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia's ruling party, which enjoyed near-monolithic power for 30 years, got a blunt message from the top Friday — get ready to compete in a multi-party democracy.

And, in a groundbreaking gesture which symbolised President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali's plans, an opposition leader was, for the first time, given a chance to address a congress of the ruling party.

The party is holding its first congress since the enforced retirement of its founder, President Habib Bourguiba, who ruled Tunisia for its first three decades of independence.

Ibn Ali himself told the party faithful that "nowadays, there is no possibility for any party to

govern in the absence of national reconciliation. Pluralism is no longer a mere possibility, it has become a necessity."

While criticising paralysis of government under Bourguiba, who will be 85 Wednesday and was declared senile when he was retired last November to an estate south of Tunis, Ibn Ali praised the ex-president's role in building up the party.

"We want to reform, not to destroy, to add, not to erase," he told the more than 2,000 delegates of the party, which changed its name in February to the Constitutional Democratic Assembly from the Destourian Socialist Party.

Ibn Ali, an army general who

came to politics by way of the Interior Ministry, spurned Bourguiba's custom of being carried shoulder-high into party gatherings.

He also said he would be using for the last time the president's power to appoint the party's central committee.

He said he would choose only a portion of the committee's 200 members, the rest being elected, and the practice would cease after the current three-day congress.

Ibn Ali, who changed nearly half his cabinet Tuesday sacking most ministers who had served under Bourguiba, renewed an appeal for a national pact, which would set out basic national aims and which could be drawn up with opposition parties and other groups.

The leader of the main recognised opposition party, the Movement of Socialist Democrats, supported the idea of a pact in a speech to delegates.

Ahmad Mesrini, a former interior minister, was invited with other opposition leaders for the first time to a ruling party congress. Party congresses are normally held at five-year intervals. The last was in 1986.

Sinhalese violence kills at least 15

COLOMBO (Agencies) — At least 15 people were killed in sporadic violence as Sinhalese extremists burnt buses and attacked government property on the first anniversary of the Indo-Sri Lankan peace accord, authorities said Friday.

At least 13 extremists were shot and killed by police during a spate of attacks on government buildings in southern and central Sri Lanka, military officers in Colombo said.

A Sri Lankan soldier was killed by extremists in Hambantota district in the south and one civilian died when the radicals attacked a pub, they said.

Southern Sri Lanka, considered a stronghold of the people's Liberation Front, an extremist group known by its Sinhalese acronym JVP, was put under a 24-hour curfew at 6 a.m. Friday (0030 GMT).

The curfew was declared by authorities after members of the front called for a general strike to protest the Indian-brokered accord aimed at ending the island's Tamil ethnic war.

Residents of the north Sri Lankan city of Vavuniya said over the telephone that Indian soldiers also declared curfew in some areas in the island's north and east to guard against attacks by Tamil rebels.

The peace accord, signed a year ago, is opposed both by the Tamil rebels and the Sinhalese extremists. It was signed by India and Sri Lanka in an attempt to end the five-year Tamil separatist war, and aimed at giving the rebels limited autonomy in exchange for their surrendering arms.

The bardline JVP has attacked government targets and killed more than 200 members of the ruling United National Party since the signing of the accord. The JVP sees the accord as a sell-out to India.

"People trying to burn buses or create public disorder will be shot," Brigadier Vijaya Wimalaratne, security co-ordinator for the Colombo district, warned Thursday.

Despite the security crackdown, shops were closed.

U.N. says Gulf peace talks in 'right direction'

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar denied Friday his Iran-Iraq peace talks were deadlocked and said he was very pleased because "things are moving in the right direction."

He told reporters as he arrived at U.N. headquarters that he would have another meeting during the day with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

He said he would also see Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz if he found that necessary.

Asked by a reporter if the talks, which began Tuesday, were deadlocked, he replied: "The talks are not... I'll keep trying until the end, and the end is very far."

"I think that we are, on the contrary, working in a very positive manner. I am very, very pleased because I think that things are moving, and moving in the right direction."

On the Gulf war front, the Iranian dissident movement, the National Liberation Army (NLA), said Friday its fighters had pulled out of two towns after three days of fighting in which

40,000 Iranian Revolutionary Guards were killed or wounded.

The NLA, in a communique released in Baghdad, said its fighters returned to their bases Friday after three days of fighting and that 40,000 Revolutionary Guards were killed or wounded in the battles.

The rebels operate a series of bases or camps along the border, usually just on the Iraqi side of the frontier.

The rebel group said its forces penetrated 150 kilometres into Iran during the offensive and controlled the towns of Karand and Islamabad for 72 hours.

But Iran said it drove the rebels out of Islamabad and Karand, killing or wounding 4,500 invaders in a "heavy battle," against a joint Iraqi-NLA force.

Tehran Radio said thousands more invaders were wounded and more than 1,000 Iraqi tanks and

personnel carriers were either destroyed or seized intact.

In the sermon carried by Tehran Radio, Iranian war supreme Hashemi Rafsanjani acknowledged that the NLA pushed 105 kilometres into Iran, coming within 35 kilometres of the provincial capital of Bakhtaran.

Iraq, which said Tuesday its troops were withdrawing from Gilan-e Gharb, has denied it was involved in the attack on Islamabad, one of the deepest thrusts into Iranian territory in the eight-year-old war.

(Continued on page 3)

King cables Iraqi leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday cabled condolences to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on the death of Third Army Corps Commander Brigadier Taher Abdul Rashid. The King paid tribute to the late military commander and expressed confidence that Iraq would continue to attain victories against Iran on the war front.



Palestinian protesters throw stones at Israeli troops in Jerusalem; a Palestinian schoolgirl is arrested

Palestinians strike in solidarity with women

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians staged a general strike Friday against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Israel had to decide if it would be a Jewish or Jewish-Arab state.

Stores closed in the occupied West Bank, transportation stopped and few residents went to work as Palestinians heeded calls from underground leaders of the seven-month uprising to strike in solidarity with women prisoners.

A partial stoppage was observed in the occupied Gaza strip because of varying strike dates in two leaflets, both signed by the national unified leadership, Palestinians said.

Lawyer Walid Sahum estimated 90 of 4,500 Palestinians detained since the uprising began

were women.

Peres said in a radio interview: "We must decide in a clear, unmistakable way if we want to be a Jewish state or a Jewish-Arab state. These are decisions we cannot run away from."

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Soviet meeting leaves leadership unchanged

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The top Soviet leadership emerged unchanged Friday from a one-day meeting of the Communist Party's policy-making Central Committee, according to a report by the official TASS news agency.

TASS said the eight-hour meeting — chaired by Mikhail Gorbachev, party general secretary and top Kremlin leader — had set up a commission to ensure implementation of decisions taken at last month's free-wheeling party conference.

It also approved a decree on elections to party bodies and on reform of the party apparatus — both topics on which Gorbachev won approval at the conference for radical changes to current practices aimed at what he

termed democratisation.

TASS said Gorbachev made a report to the meeting which was attended by the some 300 full members of the central committee, often described as the party's parliament, and some 20 candidate or auditing commission members, who have no vote.

The report focussed on practical measures to implement the resolutions of the conference, which called for increased "glasnost" or openness and a further development of the Kremlin chief's "perestroika" reform programme. TASS said.

Western and Soviet sources had predicted that at least one long-standing member of the leadership would tender his resignation at the gathering, perhaps

setting a precedent for orderly retirement from the ruling body where members have traditionally served for life or been voted out in disgrace.

One of the figures whose future had been suggested as in doubt, Ukrainian Party leader Vladimir Shcherbitsky, was the first to speak following Gorbachev's report, according to the TASS account.

Among the proposals for reform are a complete revamping of central government by next spring and reconsideration of the qualifications of the party's 20 million members.

Less than 10 per cent of Soviet adults gain entrance into the all-powerful party. Gorbachev has suggested that standards for

membership should be raised to further limit the size of what he sees as the "vanguard of society" and ensure that only the best workers, managers and academics are among their ranks.

Gorbachev has also called for reforms in the legal system, warning that failing to do so could result in the nation lapsing into the command form of government that allowed widespread repression under dictator Josef Stalin and the corruption and stagnation that marked the leadership of Leonid Brezhnev.

Gorbachev also proposed during the earlier conference that a powerful new presidency be created, and many expect him to eventually take such a title for himself.

Of Places and People

WHEN Abdul Hamid, the Sultan of Turkey, was deposed in 1909, the Committee of Union and Progress took over the reins of government. Turkish nationalism, already rampant under the banner of Pan-Turanism, became even more actively violent. One of the means in which it manifested its policies in the Arab provinces (of the Ottoman empire) was the policy of Turkification. Arab nationalism, which had been already preached in milder forms late in the nineteenth century by numerous writers and poets in Syria and Lebanon, and which had been fairly well received in Iraq, Palestine, Jordan and the Hijaz, this (Arab) nationalism reacted as violently towards the Turkification policy. The Great Arab Revolt of 1916 was the practical expression of this reaction. The Allies, through British agents and channels, had raised the hopes of the Arabs through their promises to help them create their own "independent" state. After World War I the Allies not only broke their promises, but even the one "vestige" of the realisation of one of the dreams of Arab nationalism, the Arab state in Syria, was uncouthly swept away by the French (1920). Furthermore Britain, with the approval of the USA, France and Italy, issued the Balfour Declaration (1917) for the creation of a national home for the Jews in Palestine, which implied a Jewish state in the land of Palestine. Mandates were being framed for Iraq, Palestine, Syria and Lebanon, and a British protectorate had been declared earlier during the war over Egypt. And victorious states as they were, Britain and France went on completely unabashed.

No wonder there was an Egyptian revolution in 1919, an Iraqi revolution in 1920, strikes and protests in Palestine as of 1919 (endless) and numerous revolts in Syria and Lebanon, culminating in the great Syrian rise of 1925. This was the Arab atmosphere in which we lived. This was explained to us through the only mass media available then — the press. Further elucidation came from our teachers.

We read about Arabian and Arab nationalism. We read more poetry than prose; and in prose there was more romance than analysis. We learnt some things about nationalism in 19th century Europe. Was that a "political" nationalism? Was it a "cultural" nationalism? Did we know the difference? It was held then that the French view was political, while the Germans always meant a "kulturation." Where did the Arabs stand?

During those years (1921-4), and as a matter of fact for a number of years to follow, there was little analytical study of nationalism in Arabic. This was taken for granted — this is national; but even natural things need an "education, a discussion, an exposition and an argument," otherwise they would lose their

meaning. So I think one problem which disturbed me and a few of my schoolmates then centred around "What am I? what are we?"

Our first interest was directed towards roots. Arabs of nomadic and semi-nomadic dispositions never developed, by force of circumstances, any special attachment to a land as a "home." "Land" to them, was an unbounded, undefined area through which they roamed, and where they tried to secure a subsistence for themselves and their animals, with the necessary water resources. The ties which bound the members of their "society" — i.e. the tribe — was thus not a *watan*, native-land, but a kinship based on "blood" relationship. The Arabic word *asabiyya* meant just this bond, with its various ways of application and preservation. Hence "genealogical" trees played such a major role in the "records" of "history" as appreciated by those people. This sort of "pedigree", to which an Arab attached such a significant "place" was observed in a vacuum of place but not that of time. Hence the "number" of generations which could be pointed out was of value.

But Arabs were mostly settled people, and this was not a new thing in history. So "land" (a native-land — *watan*) came to play a role in the psychological constitution of the Arab people. This was something innate, not yet studied. And men and women at that — began adding the "place" of their birth to that of their time-honoured "pedigree."

My generation belonged to this category — we were not the first generation of Arabs to have "felt" thus, but our situation vis-a-vis the challenges and impacts imposed this on us more forcibly.

Did we find our identity then? In trying to remember those years and our arguments and discussions, some serious and other not so serious, I seem to have a recollection that we accepted tacitly that we were Arabs — of time (pedigree) and place (native-land or town). I remember how I began collecting oral information from my maternal grandfather, in his eighties then, about our "roots" and the time of "their" arrival in Nazareth. He, it was, who advised me that the "Ziadah" had been established there for about eight generations (from me upwards Nicola, Abdo, Abdallah, Abdalla (twice) Hanna, Khalil, Hanna, Khalil); that the family had migrated from the neighbourhood of Salt (in Jordan). The family of my paternal grandfather, Kardosli, had connections with the Karadsheh clan of Jordan. His own family had gone from Hossn (Jordan) to Nazareth early in the 19th century. At Nazareth, for reasons which I have been unable to clear so far, the family's name changed from Rihani (or Rayahim) to Shurush. My grandfather, Abdallah, was born about 1840! His wife's family, Haddad, I was

Roots and identity

By Dr. Nicola A. Ziadah

told by him as well as others of the family itself, had come to Nazareth from the Hawran area, and had been there for close to 150 years!

This satisfied me. Pedigree (time)-wise I belonged to the descendants of the famous Ghasanids, with various additional Arab blood coming from south-

ern Arabia with time. Place (native-land) wise I was a Nazarene, from Palestine. Cross relations made me in agreement in feeling with a Baghdadi, a Damascene, etc. "I am an Arab!"

This identity which was felt, and as I thought of it then, in the blood, needed in my opinion

some clarification. There were general views offered. But eventually I settled to the following formula: I spoke Arabic, I lived in an Arab land.

I shared with others (from various Arab lands of which I had any reliable knowledge) their hopes and aspiration, I partici-

pated with them in a common history, and shared a common cultural heritage.

The broad outlines were there — the collection of the details and the various stones and bricks to construct the edifice of Arabism (for myself) was to come with years!



Troops of the Great Arab Revolt arriving at Aqaba in 1917 (File photos)



Jordan terminates West Bank development plan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers held a meeting before noon Thursday. At the conclusion of the meeting, which was presided over by the Prime Minister, the Cabinet issued the following statement:

The Council of Ministers discussed the measures the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan should take in dealing with the Palestinian problem in its current phase. This was done in the light of the resolutions of Algiers extraordinary summit, which reflected the Arab commitment and intent to support the Arab Palestinian people in their heroic struggle to achieve their national goals under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, their sole and legitimate representative.

The Cabinet considered the essential requirements to give greater prominence to Palestinian identity; to enable the PLO to shoulder its responsibility fully; to remove any doubts concerning Jordan's real position in spite of its clarity; and to put an end to any attempt to suggest that Jordan's motives in supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people under occupation are suspect or conducive to promoting what has been referred to as a sharing of administrative responsibility in the occupied territories, and are containing and undercutting the role of the PLO. Moreover, Jordan's motives were subjected to accusations as being contradictory with the aspirations of the Palestinian people for independence on their national soil.

On the basis of the results of the discussions in the Council of Ministers:

In keeping with Jordan's commitment to the Rabat summit resolutions which emphasised that the PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people;

And in keeping with Jordan's commitment to the Fes Summit resolutions which called for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip;

And in adhering to Jordan's firm and declared position regarding the Palestinian problem, and Jordan's support for the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their inalienable national rights and to exercise their right of self-determination, including their right to establish their own independent state on their national soil;

And in order to give substantial manifestation to the Jordanian concept as outlined by His Majesty the King in his speech at the Algiers summit, in which he stressed that Jordan has no designs or ambitions over Palestinian soil, and in which he elucidated the prerequisites for joint Arab action in support of the Palestinian people in their heroic uprising;

And on the basis of Jordan's firm belief that the Palestinian people should be the principal concerned party in seeking a solution to their problem;

And to remove any doubt which might arise regarding Jordan's relationship with the Palestinian people under occupation, by virtue of Jordan's strong historical and geographical bonds with the Palestinian people.

And in response to the desires and wishes of the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, as expressed by Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the PLO, at the Algiers summit;

Motivated by all the above considerations, the government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan decides:

1. To terminate the Jordanian Development Plan for the occupied territories.

2. To dissolve all the developments, tenders and purchases committees operating within the framework of the aforesaid plan.

3. To continue its contacts with Arab and friendly governments to encourage them to assist the Palestinian people under occupation to enable them to implement their development projects.

In announcing this decision, the Government of Jordan wishes to emphasise that it will spare no effort, within its available means, to assist the Palestinian people in the occupied territories in support of their glorious uprising.

At the same time, the Government is determined to take any measures within its mandate which would enhance the Palestinian national cause. The Government of Jordan wishes to make it emphatically clear that these measures will in no way impinge on the national unity of all the citizens in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. This unity is, and will continue to be, dearly upheld and protected. The unity of our people is the solid foundation for the strength of our country and legitimate cornerstone for broader Arab unity with any Arab sister state.

Jordan will continue to play its national role as a confrontation state and as a principal party to the Arab-Israeli conflict, in cooperation and coordination with its Arab brethren, to free the occupied Arab territories with their gem, the Arab Muslim city of Jerusalem.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 7711-19

PROGRAMME ONE
16:00 Koran
16:25 Cartoons and children programmes
17:10 Educational programme
17:30 News summary
18:05 Message from Iraq
18:15 Local programme
19:00 Family programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic series
21:40 Local programme
22:00 Play in Arabic
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Le Chevalier de Pardoulon
19:00 News in French
19:15 Un DB de plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 Mr. Belvedere
21:00 Saturday variety show
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "The River"

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 95.0 KHz. SW Tel: 7711-19

07:00 Morning Show
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 The Story of Motown
12:00 News Summary
12:45 Pop Session
13:05 News Summary
13:40 News Bulletin
14:30 Jordan Weekly
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental/Old favourites
17:40 Special Feature
17:50 Good Old Days
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 News/Music
20:00 The Young Sound
20:30 Discovering Music
21:00 The Musical in Review
22:00 Country Music
23:00 Classical Concerts
24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsweek 07:30 Here's Humph!
07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial News
08:00 World News 08:30 24 Hours
08:45 The World Today 09:00 News
09:30 Meridian 10:00 World News
10:00 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30
From the Weeklies 10:45 Network UK
11:00 World News 11:45 Reflections
11:55 A Jolly Good Show 12:00 World
News 12:05 British Press Review 12:15
The World Today 12:30 Financial
News followed by Sports Roundup
12:45 Personal View 13:00 News
Summary followed by Trooping the Colour
13:15 Sports World 13:30 Trooping the
Colour contd. 13:45 Letter from
America 14:00 World News 14:05
News about Britain 14:15 The A-Z of
Hollywood 14:30 Meridian 15:00
Radio Newsweek 15:15 Multitrack 3
15:45 Sports Roundup 16:00 World
News 16:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News
Summary 16:30 Sports World 16:45
Sports World 17:00 News Summary fol-
lowed by Sports Roundup 17:45 World
News 18:00 Radio Newsweek 18:15
Sports World 19:00 World News 19:05
News about Britain 19:15 Sports World
20:00 World News 20:05 Words 20:15
The Ken Bruce Show 20:45 Sports
Round-up 21:00 Newsweek 21:30 Great
British Concert Halls 22:00 News Sum-
mary followed by Play of the Week:
Number One 23:00 World News 23:05
Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 23:30
Meridian 24:00 News Summary fol-
lowed by Sports World 00:15 The
Seven Ages of Man 00:30 People and
Politics 01:00 World News 01:05 From
Our Own Correspondent 01:25 Book
Choice 01:30 News Ideas 01:50 Reflec-
tions 01:45 Sports Roundup 02:00
World News 02:05 Commentary 02:15
The Tony Mynar Story Show

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 & 12110 KHz

07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00
News 08:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News
09:10 VOA Morning 12:00 News 12:10
VOA News 12:05 Press Conference, USA
19:00 News 19:10 American View-
points 19:30 Special English News &
Features 20:00 News 20:10 Weekend
21:00 News 21:10 Closeup 21:30 Special
English News & Features 22:00
News 22:10 American Viewpoints
22:30 Press 23:00 News 23:10 Music, USA Jazz 23:25

CULTURAL CENTRES & LIBRARIES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 661026/7
American Centre 644371
American Centre Library and 641520
British Council 636147/8
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 642023
Spanish Cultural Centre 620409
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Hassan Youth City 667181/6
Y.W.C.A. 641752
Y.W.M.A. 664251
Abdullah Hamid Library 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library 843555
Abdullah Shoman Foundation 672541
Amman Municipal Library 637111

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: An excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muzah, Jabal Luwadih. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630126.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

PRAYER TIMES

04:13 Fajr
05:47 (Sunrise) Dhuha
12:45 Dhuhr
16:34 Asr
19:41 Maghreb
21:11 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luwadih, Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hums, Tel. 661757. Sunday English mass (summer time 6 p.m., winter time 5 p.m.).
Terrence Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Luwadih, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 623366.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 623363, chaplain's residence tel. 601399.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 711331.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 725261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 717751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 67534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Snir 811295.
Rabbi's Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational-ecumenical English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 826055, Rev. Voli.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) 815817, 82264

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

05:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
06:00 Agaba (RJ)
06:00 New Delhi (RJ)
06:15 Jeddah (add) (RJ)
06:30 Cairo (RJ)
06:45 Doha, Muscat (GF)
06:55 Kuwait (LV)
07:00 Riyadh (SV)
07:05 Damascus (AZ)
07:40 Kuwait (RJ)
07:55 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
08:00 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
08:15 New York, Montreal (RJ)
08:20 Larnaca (add) (RJ)
08:25 Athens (RJ)
08:30 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
08:45 Los Angeles, Miami, Vienna (RJ)
08:45 Tripoli (RJ)
21:30 Moscow (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

02:30 Belgrade (JU)
02:30 Baghdad (IA)
13:20 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)
13:20 Cairo (MS)
15:45 Tripoli (LV)
16:00 Riyadh (SV)
18:05 Rome (AZ)
19:40 Kuwait (KU)
21:15 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
22:35 Paris, Damascus (AF)
01:40 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:45 Agaba (RJ)
11:30 Tripoli (RJ)
11:45 Moscow (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:10 Athens (RJ)
12:30 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
12:45 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
13:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
13:05 London (RJ)
13:15 Paris (RJ)
13:20 Larnaca (add) (RJ)
13:30 Doha, Muscat (GF)
13:40 Kuwait (RJ)
13:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
13:50 Damascus, Larnaca (RJ)
14:05 Jeddah (RJ)
14:40 Cairo (RJ)
15:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
22:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

03:35 Belgrade (JU)
06:20 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
14:00 Baghdad (IA)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
14:30 Doha, Muscat (GF)
14:45 Kuwait (LV)
17:40 Riyadh (SV)
18:55 Damascus (AZ)
20:40 Kuwait (RJ)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

The weather is expected to be mild, with appearance of low clouds and north-westerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, the winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 18 / 29
Aqaba 25 / 38
Desert 20 / 34
Jordan Valley 25 / 36

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31, Aqaba 38. Humidity readings: Amman 25 per cent, Aqaba 38 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN:
Dr. Fayez Jallouqah 815541
Dr. Hussein Haddad 731267
Dr. Adnan Zaghoul 896140
Dr. Tayir Al-Sadi 679262
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asala pharmacy 637025
Naimah pharmacy 636720
Al Samsa pharmacy 644945
Yacoub pharmacy 637660
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

NIGHT DUTY

TAXIS:
Total taxi 640031
Venice taxi 644584
Asfour taxi 623230
Tamer taxi 813581
Nabla taxi 653025
Holiday taxi 663100
Sayed taxi 604422
Middle East taxi 604615

IBRD:
Dr. Mohammed Al-Ta'ani 240466
Al Shamsa pharmacy 985238
ZARQA:
Dr. Walid Halasah 982799
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Directorate 601114
Civil Defence Emergency 630441
Rescue 630441
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 198, 691228
Blood Bank 775333
Highway Police 665495
Traffic Police 630441
Public Security Directorate 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661175
Water and Sewerage 697467
Complaints 697467

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 81381303
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 642410
Abdullah Maternity, J. Amn 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642462
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664174
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muasher Hospital 667270
The Islamic, Abdali 66612707
Al-Jabal, Abdali 664162
Italian, Al-Mulhays 77101/26
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 59161/105
Army, Marka 60224080
Queen Alia Hospital 674155
Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)91070
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)98733
IBRD:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)725555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)72725
Ibn Al-Nafies Hospital (02)547400
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

GENERAL

Ministry of Information 691467
Ministry of the Interior 663111
Ministry of Justice 663111
Driving License Dept. 692283
Foreigners and Frontiers Dept. 622100
Ministerial Legal Dept. 691467
Public Security Directorate 630321
Telecommunications 630321
Complaints 630321

Ministry studies Tawjihi results

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Higher Education is reported to be studying the results of the Tawjihi (General Secondary Certificate Examinations) released last Wednesday in a bid to define the average that would be acceptable to Jordanian universities in the coming 1988-1989 academic year.

Al Rai Arabic daily said that the results will be closely studied by the Ministry of Higher Education before any decision is taken on the part of the various faculties.

Local universities normally announce their acceptance of up to the results of the Tawjihi examinations, and the applications are usually channelled through post offices to various faculties. Minister of Education Thaqan Hindawi, who announced the results last Wednesday said over 60 per cent of the 64,892 students in both the East and West Banks of Jordan passed the Tawjihi examination for the 1987-1988 school year.

The students have taken examinations in the scientific, literary, commercial, nursing, hotel management and industrial streams.

According to the minister, the closure of schools in the occupied West Bank prevented students from completing their courses of study and taking the examinations at the end of the second term, which ended in June 1988.

Their overall results for the year were therefore calculated on the basis of their results in the first term which ended in January, according to the minister.

Fuhais-Mahes health centre construction begins

FUHAIS (Petra) — The foundation stone for the Fuhais-Mahes Health Centre was laid at a ceremony held Thursday and attended by heads of local councils, the Ministry of Health.

The Ministry's secretary general, Zaid Hamzeh, in attending the ceremony, said the health centre will offer general medical services, mother and child care, dentistry and primary health care services to some 30,000 inhabitants in the vicinity of Fuhais and Mahes.

The officials said that the ministry will next month open two integrated health centres in Salt and Ain Al Basha and a medical centre at Al Mudari region.

The integrated centre will offer general medical services, mother and child care, dentistry and primary health care services to some 30,000 inhabitants in the vicinity of Fuhais and Mahes.

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NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CABINET ANNOUNCEMENT: The cabinet issued a statement Thursday announcing its intention to set up a specialised unit to maintain control and follow up on the progress of development projects of various ministries. This unit will be charged with monitoring the implementation of projects in accordance with priority, the statement said. The statement circulated to various ministries requested the nomination of liaison officers to carry out the follow-up process in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning.

LAWZI RECEIVES CABLE: Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Lawzi has received a cable of thanks from Abdul Karim Al Arshi, speaker of the Shura Council in North Yemen. The cable was in reply to one Lawzi sent Arshi, congratulating him on being elected for a new term.

38 NEW SCHOOLS: The Ministry of Education will receive 38 schools within the Amman region during the summer, according to Mohammad Bani Hani, director of education in the Amman region. He said the school buildings, which cost JD 9 million, will help reduce the ministry's dependence on rented buildings and will help reduce the two-shift school sessions in the Amman region. The new schools he said are provided with laboratories, workshops and facilities for handicrafts as well as other utilities and playgrounds for children.

S. YEMEN AIDE TO ARRIVE: South Yemen's Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Al Dali is due here Monday on a three-day official visit to Jordan. The minister will meet with officials and discuss bilateral relations as well as developments in the region and means of bolstering Jordanian-Yemeni relations.

ELECTIONS IN BANI KINANA: The district governor of Bani Kinana, in the northern regions of the country, has set up a committee to register voters in the coming municipal elections.

Palestinians stage general strike in solidarity with women prisoners

(Continued from page 1)

occupied territories — was central to November national elections.

"These are the central issues that we must decide," he said. But right-wing Prime Minister Itzhak Shamir framed election issues differently.

"Israel must be a Jewish state, and she will be so," he said in an interview with Ha'aretz newspaper. "Israel must be viewed as a single piece. We must take into account the fact that it has been created by the Jewish people."

A poll in the English-language Jerusalem Post daily showed voters favoured right-wing parties while the older supported the left.

The study of 1,200 Israelis was conducted by the Institute of Applied Social Research and Hebrew University.

Shamir's headline Likud bloc will win the elections by a slim margin, according to a poll published in the mass-circulation editor-Abramot newspaper.

Although Likud would get 46 seats to the Labour Party's 42 seats, its right wing allies would win slightly more places than the socialist parties that team up with Labour.

In Jerusalem, 600 police patrolled the Old City to deter demonstrations after Friday prayers at the Al Aqsa Mosque.

Some 5,000 Muslims came to pray despite the transportation strike and left the area without incident.

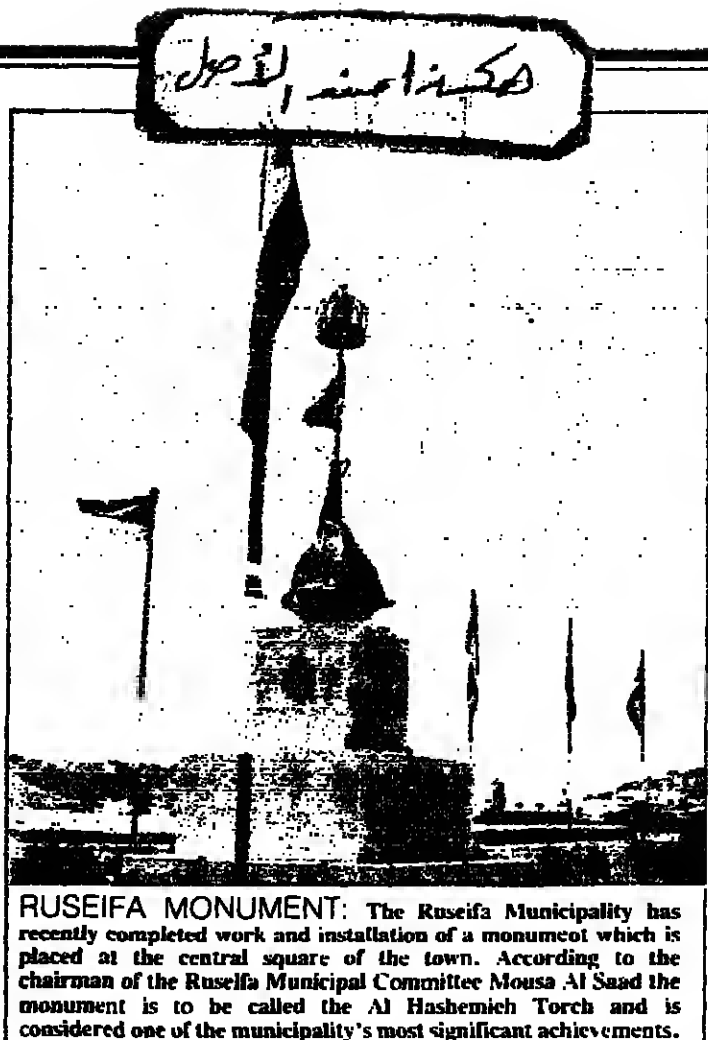
Reports said young Palestinians were turned back at army roadblocks in north Jerusalem.

Police arrested two Palestinian girls from Shuafat neighbourhood after they found Palestinian flags in the girls' rooms, sources said.

The sources said police had arrested 32 Palestinians suspected of involvement in recent protests in Jerusalem.

Graffiti appeared on walls overnight reading "Death to the Zionists" and "Yes for a Palestinian state."

Also Israeli Radio said Israeli



RUSEIFA MONUMENT: The Ruseifa Municipality has recently completed work and installation of a monument which is placed at the central square of the town. According to the chairman of the Ruseifa Municipal Committee Mousa Al Saad the monument is to be called the Al Hashemeh Torch and is considered one of the municipality's most significant achievements.

First group of pilgrims return to occupied lands

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The first group of pilgrims from the occupied Arab territories have crossed the King Hussein Bridge on their way back home after performing this year's pilgrimage rites in Mecca.

The first group travelling in 31 buses were seen off at the bridge terminal by Ministry of Aqwa and Islamic Affairs officials and relatives.

Two more convoys will leave for their lands occupied by Israel since 1948 on Sunday and Monday, according to officials.

Following their prayers at Mecca the pilgrims visited the Prophet Mohammad's Tomb in

Medina. According to Sheikh Abdul Rahim Al Ukour head of the Jordanian pilgrimage mission in the city.

Ukour said a 73-year-old man died of natural causes during the pilgrimage. "All the rest of the pilgrims were safe and sound."

Nearly 11,000 pilgrims from Jordan and the occupied Arab lands made the trip to Mecca by land this year under arrangements taken by the Ministry of Aqwa and Islamic Affairs.

The King Hussein Bridge on the River Jordan was Friday open only for the returning pilgrims or those whose permits were due to expire by the end of this week.

PSD issues fresh warning against use of firearms

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Public Security Department (PSD) has issued fresh warnings to the public against the use of firearms during weddings and other occasions and said violators would be prosecuted.

PSD's Director of Criminal Investigation Department Colonel Noureddin Khair was quoted by Al Dustour Arabic daily as saying that despite earlier and repeated warnings against the use of firearms during weddings and other occasions, there have been violations that have caused the death or injury of innocent people.

Khair was commenting on a recent report of the death of a child and the injury of 11 others in Salt and other parts of the country as a result of firing. He said firearms were used to express rejoicings over successful results of the Tawjihi examinations which were announced Wednesday.

Al Dustour reported that following the announcement of the results 11 young men and women were admitted to Al Bashir Hospital in Amman suffering from depression, nervous break down and poisoning.

Poisoning, the paper said, was due to swallowing large amounts of drugs by the patients in an attempt to commit suicide.

TIES WITH SINGAPORE: Jordan and Singapore have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at non-residential ambassadorial level.

Jordan expects shortage of 1,400 nurses by year 1995

AMMAN (Petra) — The Higher Council of Health (HCH) in Jordan expects a shortage of 1,400 nurses in the Kingdom by the year 1995 if the present annual rate of nurses graduation is maintained, and therefore it is exerting all possible efforts to deal with the situation, according to HCH Secretary General Faisal Al Dahleh.

The present number of nurses employed in the Kingdom now stands at 2,055 of whom 559 are non-Jordanians. Dahleh said in an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

According to the Health Ministry's five-year development plan Jordan's population will be 4.5 million by the year 2000, requiring 13,500 hospital beds at the rate of 30 beds for every 10,000 inhabitants, and at least 4,387 qualified nurses to offer nursing services to them.

Dahleh said that at the current rate of nurses graduation from different nursing schools the country will face a shortage of 257 nurses at least by the end of the present century.

The HCH has conducted a study designed to help the country attain self-sufficiency in nurses and has decided to set up a regional centre for training instructors for nurses. Dahleh said.

Dahleh, who expects the new centre to go into operation before the end of this year, said that the graduates will augment the present number of teachers at nursing schools, which at present are facing a growing number of applications by women seeking to become qualified nurses.

The HCH is currently involved in upgrading the qualifications of nurses by offering them courses to acquire BA degrees in nursing at the University of Jordan and the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST). Dahleh noted.

He said that 110 male and female nurses will graduate from the two universities with BA degrees annually in accordance with the new arrangements.

Additional numbers of nurses with diplomas will graduate from Health Ministry nursing colleges in Amman, Zarqa and Irbid as well as the Armed Forces nursing schools, Dahleh added.

In addition, he said, the ministry of Education's schools will continue to graduate more than 800 assistant nurses every year.

Referring to the qualified midwives, Dahleh said that their number in Jordan now stands at 413 of whom 47 are foreigners.

Health Ministry nursing colleges turn out 50 qualified midwives annually, but the shortage in midwives is still estimated at 339.

Dahleh predicted that Jordan will need 700 qualified midwives by the year 1995, and 1,163 by the end of the century, and that there will be a shortage of 244 midwives by the year 2000 unless the current rate or graduates is raised to 85 annually.

The country now has 1,835 assistant nurses of whom 48 are non-Jordanians, according to Dahleh who expects a shortage of 750 in the number of assistant nurses by the turn of the century.

Dahleh said that assistant nurses receive 18 month training courses following graduation from Ministry of Education's school and their number is on the increase.

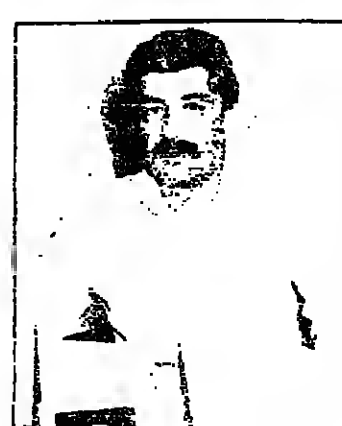
The number of working nurses at the University of Jordan's hospital now stands at 316, of whom 111 hold university degrees, according to the hospital's Director General Dr. Mohammad Al Rashdan. He said the hospital has lately appointed 100 foreign nurses and 30 Jordanian nurses to meet the growing demand on nursing services.

The Jordan University hospital annually dispatches 30 of its nursing staff members to the nursing faculty of the University of Jordan to acquire B.A. degrees in nursing, in a bid to promote the standard of nursing services. Rashdan pointed out.

He said that the hospital has been included under the umbrella of the newly established National Health Institution (NHI), and all measures to appoint nurses for the hospital are being coordinated with that institution and the Health Ministry.

The University of Jordan's Nursing Faculty's deputy Dean Dr. Raghdha Shukri said that 24 male and female students were accepted by the faculty in 1973.

But in view of the limited number of nursing schools in Jordan it is not possible to accept



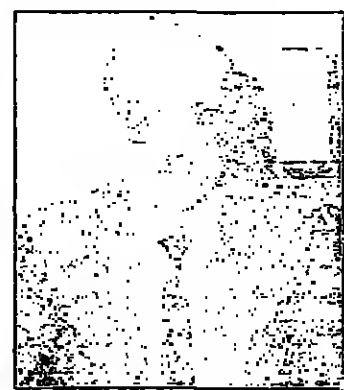
Faisal Al Dahleh



Mohammad Al Rashdan



Raghdha Shukri



Hashem Salameh

She said the faculty has opened courses for an M.A. degree and 11 students will graduate with this degree this year and a number of the graduates are being sent abroad for their Ph.D. degrees.

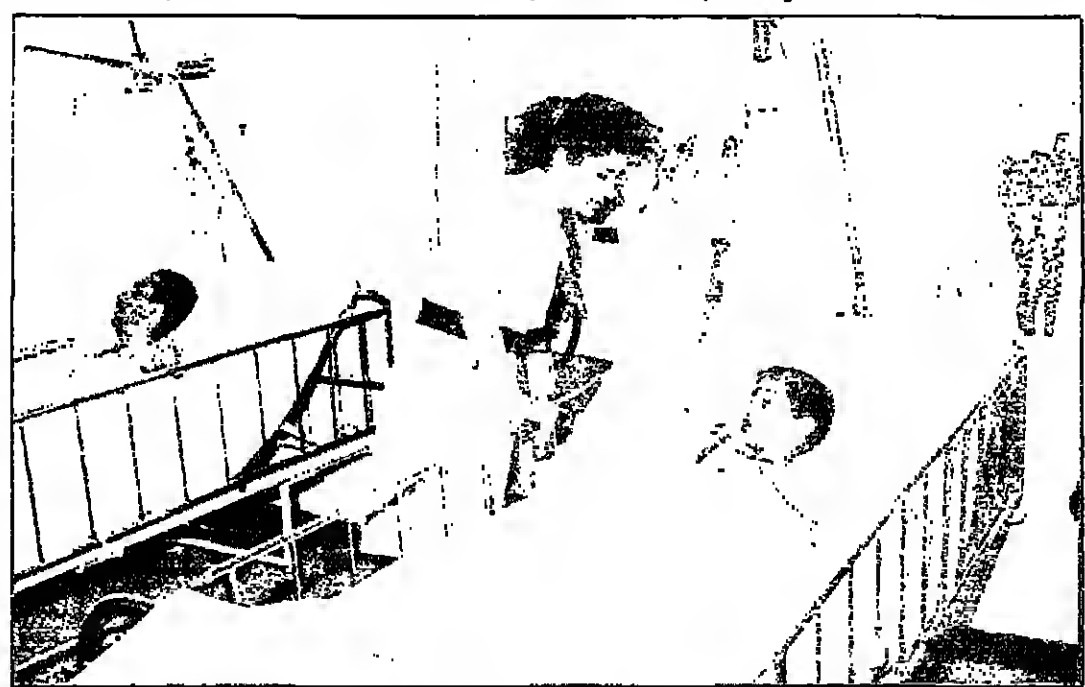
Nursing courses cover anatomy, general nursing, internal nursing, children and women nursing, mental nursing, society nursing and the general management of patients services, in addition to courses in laboratory tests and training at various health institutions in Jordan. Dr. Shukri added.

But in view of the limited number of nursing schools in Jordan it is not possible to accept

thousands of people wishing to learn the profession, according to Hashem Salameh, president of the Nursing and Midwives Association.

Salameh told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that work is underway to introduce an amendment to laws, making them incumbent upon all qualified nurses and midwives to work at hospitals and health centres operated by the Ministry of Health or the Armed Forces Medical Services for at least two years.

He said this move is being taken to help meet the shortage in the number of nurses in the Kingdom.



A Jordanian nurse takes care of her patients in one of the government hospitals (Petra photo)

Top-level panel opens talks today

(Continued from page 1)

far" in the economic, agricultural, trade and industrial fields.

Sedki will also tour a number of development projects and tourist and archaeological sites, Petra said. He is also expected to hold meetings with the editors of Jordanian newspapers and members of the Egyptian community in the Kingdom.

A joint committee comprising senior officials from both countries has prepared for the joint

committee's meeting. On Thursday its members discussed working papers and set up sub-committees to pave the way for the meeting. The sub-committees are expected to submit their recommendations to the joint committee.

The Jordanian side to Thursday's meeting was led by Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Faysal Tarawneh and the Egyptian side was headed by Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation.

'Gulf talks in right direction'

(Continued from page 1)

Iran also said Friday direct talks with Iraq were possible once a ceasefire was in place.

Tehran Radio quoted Velayati as saying in a letter to Perez de Cuellar that Iran rejected direct talks with Iraq before a ceasefire took effect.

But Velayati, at the U.N. for talks with Perez de Cuellar on Security Council Resolution 598 on ending the Gulf war, said Iran would consider face-to-face talks later if Perez de Cuellar found them necessary.

"If in the course of implementation... the secretary general deems direct talks necessary, the Islamic Republic of Iran will be ready to consider his request," the radio quoted Velayati as saying in the letter.

Iran's ambassador to the United Nations, Mohammad Jaafar Mahalati, said Thursday in reply to a question about face-to-face talks that Tehran would accept only a ceasefire.

Iraq has called for direct talks and denounced Iran's initial rejection as evidence of its insincerity in accepting the U.N. ceasefire call nearly two weeks ago.

In Tehran, Rafsanjani said Iran's unexpected acceptance of

Resolution 598 was "a correct and logical political move."

The U.N. secretary general said Friday he was still awaiting Aziz's response to his proposals for implementing a ceasefire in the Gulf war. He was handed Velayati's response Wednesday, before the talks were recessed for a day.

"I am a man who is continually improving his own proposals... I am always trying to provide new ideas to the parties. That's why I need to be constantly in touch with the parties. But it does not mean I have to see every time the foreign minister. I have other channels to reach the different parties," Perez de Cuellar said.

In further remarks Friday, Perez de Cuellar, who has been conducting informal press conferences almost throughout the Gulf peace-making exercise, chided reporters for what he termed their emphasis on symmetry in the discussions.

"I see the interlocutor I need," he said, adding in explanation of the absence of an immediate appointment with the Iraqi foreign minister, "it isn't that I have to see the Iraqis."

Asked again about the course of the discussions, he said: Be patient.

WHAT'S GOING ON SATURDAY JERASH FESTIVAL

Local and Arabic music by the Jordan Armed Forces Band at the Forum, 6:30 p.m.

Jordanian Folk Dance by the Ramtha Folk Dance troupe at the Forum at 8:00 p.m.

Play by the Jordan Children Friends Club at the Sound and Light theatre at 8:00 p.m.

Lebanese Folklore Songs and Dancing by Majda Al Roumi and her troupe at the South Theatre at 9:00 p.m.

Modern Music and Songs by the Association of Jordanian Musicians at the Sound and Light theatre at 9:30 p.m.

Music by Iraqi artist Nasser Shamama at the Artemis at 9:30 p.m.

LECTURE

A lecture by Lana Munkig, Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation at 6:00 p.m.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.
1-Tablet/col 1977

الوقت العربي: جريدة سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

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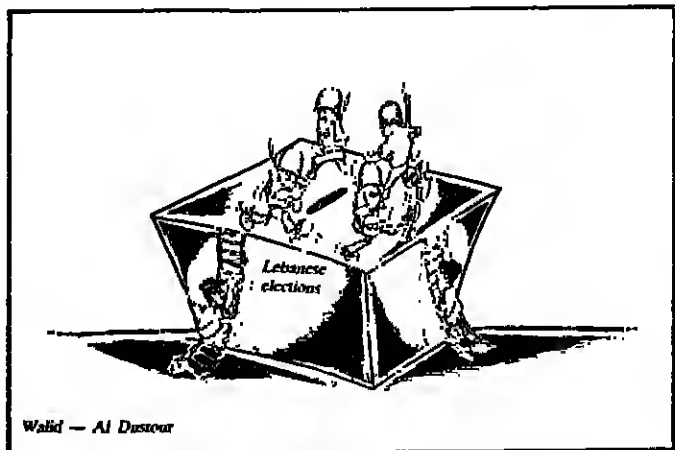
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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's Al Ra'i: Removing doubts

JORDAN'S termination of its development plan for the occupied Arab territories came in response to the desires and interests of the PLO which is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This move should not be considered as a shirking of national responsibility towards the Palestinian people, nor is it an irrational decision. Over the past years, Jordan has shouldered its national responsibilities towards the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories, and it has always believed that there should be no rivalry with the PLO in representing the Palestinians. The decision came in spite of this clarity. It is put an end to any attempt to suggest that Jordan's motives in supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people under occupation are suspect or conducive to promoting what has been referred to as a sharing of responsibility in the occupied lands. The official statement, in manifestation of Jordan's commitment, urged all Arab states to extend help and support to the oppressed people and offered renewed pledge that Jordan will continue to seek liberation of the occupied Arab lands.



Al Dustour: Jordan renews support for Palestinians

JORDAN'S strong commitment to the national Arab causes and its belief in the principles of the Great Arab Revolt have always guided its leadership towards the service of Arab people. Jordan's position was perhaps more elaborately displayed in the Kingdom's continued support for the Palestinian people in their struggle to end aggression and occupation of Arab lands. Jordan has always been keen on removing any doubts about its moves among the Palestinian people, and has always been keen on allowing the PLO to serve as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This national stand has also guided Jordan in maintaining its assistance to the Palestinian people; and prompted King Hussein to announce at the Algiers summit that Jordan has no territorial ambitions in Palestine. The Jordanian government's move to cancel the development plan for the occupied territories came to remove all traces of doubts about Jordan's intentions, and the Kingdom's stand. The decision should be regarded also as another Jordanian step to enhance the Palestinian identity of the oppressed people under Israeli occupation. The statement, which carried the government's decision to renew Jordan's pledge to continue supporting the Palestinian people and urged all Arab countries to provide every possible assistance in this respect.

Sawt Al Shaab: Projecting Palestinian identity

IT is clear that the Jordanian government's statement, announcing the termination of its development plan for the occupied Arab territories was intended to project the Palestinian identity and enable the PLO to exercise its role and shoulder its full responsibility towards the Palestinian people. The statement also removed doubts about Jordan's position, and put an end to any misinterpretation of its moves in serving the Palestinian people and supporting their steadfastness. The government statement put an end to rumours about Jordan's intentions of terminating the salaries of government employees living in the West Bank and the dissolution of Parliament and other irrational and unrealistic moves reported by different information media. The statement was clearly intended to project Jordan as no rival to the PLO in offering help to the Palestinians and to help the organisation to shoulder its responsibility on the regional and international scenes in its capacity as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Any Jordanian government measure taken in this respect should be interpreted as coming in response to the desires of the PLO.

Thursday's Al Ra'i: Iraq wants real peace

CURRENT efforts by the U.N. Secretary General to end the Gulf conflict coincide with stepped up combat activity along the battlefield. This is a normal phenomenon that precedes the ceasefire or end of war; and the period between agreement to stop the war and ceasefire is usually followed by parties to the conflict in a bid to ensure a better bargaining position at the negotiating table. But this period has brought about further setbacks for Iraq and also proved that Iraq seeks a lasting peace and not a mere truce which can be violated at any time in the future. However, we believe that diplomatic efforts being made at the United Nations, and the U.N. secretary general's meetings with the foreign ministers of Iraq and Iran do not tolerate further procrastinations, and should be made to yield fruitful results if the Gulf region is to enjoy peace. Since Iraq has explicitly displayed its genuine desire for peace, Iraq for its part, should try to avoid any move that would obstruct diplomatic efforts for the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598. Peace between the two Gulf neighbours is the aspired dream of all countries of the world.

Al Dustour: Hope for Lebanon

ARAB countries in general and the people of Lebanon in particular are watching with keenness current diplomatic and political moves preceding the election of a new Lebanese president. They are all awaiting an end to the long period of sufferings to which the Lebanese people have been subjected; and awaiting a settlement of differences among various factions through a national reconciliation. A genuine reconciliation among the Lebanese would no doubt open up a new era for the Lebanese people, and pave the road for reconstruction and an end to civil strife that can benefit no party. According to the provisions of the Lebanese constitution, efforts are now underway to pave the ground for the president's election; and as the contacts and consultations are being made, a new hope is infused in the hearts of millions of Arabs for a lasting settlement in Lebanon. It is hoped that the heads of political parties and factions will succeed in reaching consensus, since by doing so, they will help to safeguard their country's sovereignty and preserve its unity.

By Graham Earnshaw
Reuters

TOKYO — Improved U.S.-Soviet cooperation and superpower fatigue is spurring resolution of many of the world's most persistent problems, making 1988 the year of solutions, Japanese say.

Iran's announcement that it wants a ceasefire in its war with Iraq is only the latest in a series of apparent breakthroughs in many international conflicts.

That is not to say that all the world's problems have been solved. The citizens of Lebanon and Ethiopia would no doubt be among the first to stress that point.

But international conflicts involving shooting seem to be definitely on the retreat, and analysts here see superpower weariness as the common thread linking the long list of peace breakthroughs.

In April, Moscow announced it would pull its troops out of Afghanistan after nine years fighting anti-government

rebels. In the same month, the Sandinistas and the contra rebels started their first formal ceasefire in the seven-year Nicaraguan conflict.

In May, the Soviet Union and the United States ratified a pact to scrap all their intermediate-range nuclear weapons.

In June, the warring parties in Kampuchea finally agreed to talk to each other, raising hopes of an end to that nine-year-old problem. They met in Jakarta last Monday.

In July, Cuba and South Africa announced they had reached agreement in principle to end the Angolan civil war, which began in 1975. Talks begin in Geneva next month.

Improved superpower relations

Also in July, Chad and Libya held their first high-level direct talks in so many years.

And finally, there was Iran's shock announcement that could possibly end the bloodiest and most costly conflict of the decade,

Is 1988 the year of peace?

the Gulf war.

"There is one common denominator, and that is that since the end of 1987, beginning of 1988, relations between the United States and the Soviet Union have become much better," said a Japanese international analyst who asked not to be named.

"All those events have something to do with betterment of the international environment initiated by the betterment of U.S.-Soviet relations," he added. Tokyo University's international-affairs analyst Takashi Inoguchi agreed that the superpowers were behind this new spirit of international compromise.

"The superpowers are suffering from military fatigue and economic decline vis-a-vis other powers. That has led to the détente process between each other and with other areas as well," he said.

Many of the international conflicts which have dogged the decade involve client states or allies of the superpowers, so a more relaxed atmosphere between

Washington and Moscow is obviously conducive to agreements.

"All the countries now engaged in conflict are suddenly feeling that a settlement should be necessary because East-West relations have become more relaxed," said professor Tomohisa Sakanaka of Aoyama University in Tokyo.

One possible exception to this is the Iran-Iraq war in which neither side is allied to a superpower.

Optimistic Chinese

"But both the U.S. and the Soviet Union have a lot of interest in the development of this war, and in making the two parties accept a ceasefire," said the international analyst.

"Since the beginning of this year, they have more or less worked together towards that end," he said.

So given the huge influence of the superpowers on international affairs and their apparent mutual interest to get on together, can we look forward to quieter times

in the 1990s?

Maybe, say the analysts, and then again, maybe not.

Inoguchi said the Chinese leadership in Peking were the most optimistic about the newly emerging world scene.

"The Chinese say they don't see any major power conflict for the next few decades," he said. "They say the superpowers are tired of the arms race and have economic problems, so we will basically have a peaceful international environment."

Inoguchi said he found the Chinese analysis too optimistic, but added: "The U.S. and the Soviet Union will be more and more concerned with their own things, and other countries will become more assertive — Japan, China, India maybe."

There would continue to be disputes over regional issues around the world, but perhaps not so many conflicts as in the 1980s, he said.

"Interdependence has become so strong that it is impossible to imagine military conflict between them. War between China and

Japan is unthinkable, and so is war between North and South Korea," he said.

"We have never seen any period of history where there have been no wars or conflicts," said the international analyst.

"We are moving towards solutions mainly because of the two superpowers are cooperating together to lessen tensions," he said. "So at least you can get rid of the kind of conflict (where superpowers fight by proxy)."

"But there are others where local antagonisms are the cause."

Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, in Tokyo recently, said that while there had been real progress recently in solving regional conflicts, they could be easily replaced by problems elsewhere.

"Still, I think 1990s will show a substantially different policy," he said. "The issues will come back more towards Europe and North America rather than further areas as in the 1970s."

"Whether that is good or bad, we will have to wait and see."

One place where Israel tortures Arabs

The following is part one of a report on the Dahriyyeh detention prison in the West Bank. The report was compiled by Al Haq, Law in the Service of Man, a West Bank human rights organisation affiliated to the International Commission of Jurists. SMR refers for standard minimum rules for treatment of prisoners approved by the U.N. Economic and Social Council in July 1957.

DAHRIYYEH is situated 20 minutes away from the West Bank town of Hebron, on the road to Beer Sheva. It is a mid-sized village positioned on top of a hill overlooking a green agricultural landscape. At the north entrance of the village is located a military detention centre, known as Dahriyyeh detention centre.

It was built by the British as an army camp for their soldiers, and since the first days of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, which started on Dec. 9, 1987, the camp has been used as a detention centre run by the military police to contain the vast increase in detainees.

Unlike the conventional prisons which are run by the general administration of prisons, a department of the Israeli Ministry of Police, the detention centre in Dahriyyeh is run by the Israeli military police, a unit of the Israeli army, as is the case in some other military detention centres. The chief purpose of establishing such military detention centres under the control of the army appears to us to be to detain Palestinians under conditions which constitute in themselves a punishment.

Palestinians first experienced such army detention centres in 1982. Following widespread demonstrations throughout the occupied territories in protest against the Israeli dismissal of several Palestinian mayors from the West Bank municipalities in the spring of 1982, the Israeli authorities in occupied territories adopted a policy which they officially termed *turtur*. The word *turtur* is Israeli army slang for practices short of torture. Implementing this policy, the first army detention centre was opened in Al Fara, north of Nablus.

Giving evidence on the use of *turtur* before a court in December 1982, Captain Artzi Mordechai, an Israeli operations officer serving in the West Bank, said: "In addition to this business where we work to discover the provocateurs, you *turtur* the population. Population *turtur* does not mean that you punish those who did something, but you simply round up everyone just like that."

Al Haq has monitored the conditions of detention in Al Fara since its establishment, and, in 1984, released two reports on this issue. In *Torture and Intimidation in the West Bank — The Case of Al Fara Prison*, a report co-published with the International Commission of Jurists in Geneva, Al Haq came to the conclusion that "The main purpose of Al Fara has been and continues to be the facilitation of the policy of 'population *turtur*'... [C]onditions at Al Fara were made deliberately harsh with the apparent aim of humiliating and degrading the detainees."

Later on, two similar military detention centres, "Ansar 2" (Katife) in Gaza and Tulikarem in the West Bank were established.

But the "population *turtur*" did not stop there. Since the current uprising, the occupied territories have been witnessing a more aggressive manifestation of this policy. The Dahriyyeh Detention Centre, which was officially opened in mid-December 1988 but which is already notorious for its harsh conditions, is another example of a place of detention used for this purpose.

Detainees at Dahriyyeh are beaten, humiliated and subjected to a list of rules aimed at degrading the person. They suffer from

over-crowding in rooms, cells and tents, absence of sanitary installations and deprivation of facilities to maintain personal hygiene. Such conditions serve as a constant reinforcement of the physical and mental degradation of the detainee — the dirt and discomfort that deny the detainee his personal dignity.

In addition, the detainees complain of deprivation of sleep; the poor level of medical care; forced labour; deprivation of exercise; insufficient food; isolation from the outside world; and restrictions of family and lawyers' visits. It is such practices and conditions that make Dahriyyeh a centre for illegal punishment rather than merely for detention.

This report is based on information given to Al Haq by detainees who are still in Dahriyyeh as well as by released prisoners who were being held there at one time or another since its establishment. The facts included were verified and confirmed several times by detainees independently of each other. Only those matters witnessed by the prisoners themselves are included, and no hearsay evidence is used. Where appropriate we make reference to the Standard Minimum Rules for Treatment of Prisoners, approved by the U.N. Economic and Social Council in July 1957, as a guide to the standards internationally agreed to be the minimum acceptable within prisons.

Arbitrary arrest

On May, 1988, around 650 detainees were being held at Dahriyyeh. The number of those admitted to the centre since its establishment, however, exceeds 3,000.

Arbitrariness in applying punitive measures, whether provided for by law like arrest, or illegal, like beating, is a common element in the Israeli response to the Palestinian uprising.

The Israeli military orders grant wide powers of arrest to soldiers. According to Military Order 378, every soldier is entitled to arrest any person for 18 days without a court order, on the basis of suspicion that he committed a "security offence." There is no provision to say that this suspicion must be a reasonable one. Every Palestinian is therefore at risk of arrest and detention for up to 18 days which does not have to be justified before any legal authority.

New rules concerning administrative detention and the inherent bias of the military courts in the occupied territories towards the Israeli soldiers' testimony further encourage arbitrariness.

Members of all sectors of Palestinian society are being held in Dahriyyeh: Journalists, students, merchants, university lecturers, intellectuals, workers, farmers, blind, cripple, deaf and mute people, and even the mentally retarded... men as young as 15 and as old as 70. The centre even holds some who were injured by the Israeli army and are still in need of medical care.

Every detainee who has passed through Dahriyyeh, regardless of his physical condition, his age, his professional and social status, has gone through a process of intimidation at the hands of the Israeli soldiers.

First impressions of Dahriyyeh

All the reports gathered by Al Haq on Dahriyyeh Detention Centre confirm that the process of beating and humiliation starts from the moment the detainees are collected for transport to the centre.

Blindfolded and handcuffed, their hands behind their backs, detainees are pushed by soldiers to a bus to be taken to Dahriyyeh. The bus makes several stops at military government buildings in the West Bank to collect more detainees. Each detainee has to sit with his head bowed below the level of the seat back and is ordered not to make any move. On the way to Dahriyyeh, soldiers beat, shout at and insult the detainees and hit their clubs against the seats, creating an atmosphere of terror.

Upon arrival at Dahriyyeh, the detainees are ordered to step out of the bus, still blindfolded and handcuffed, and ordered to keep their heads bent down. They are led walking between soldiers who beat them on different parts of their bodies and hang their clubs against the barrels in the yard, creating a loud noise, to intimidate the prisoners who are already disorientated.

Afterwards they are required to stand in line to deliver their belongings. Some detainees were kept standing in the yard in the manner described above for between 10 and 72 hours before being admitted to the prison. After handing in his personal items, each detainee is given a number. From this moment onwards, he ceases to be a person. He is referred to as a number.

The initial process does not end here. Each detainee still has to go through the medical examination. According to detainees, the medical officer at Dahriyyeh also carries a club and does not hesitate to use it while examining the detainees. Several reports given to Al Haq confirm that detainees had to stand naked for hours during winter at the door of the medical officer waiting for the examination.

From now on he is instructed to address every soldier as a Captain. Should he fail to do so, he is punished. Finally, the detainee is taken to his room, cell or tent. When the door opens, the other detainees already locked inside the room have to stand away from the door with their faces to the wall and hands behind their backs.

Overcrowding in the rooms, cells and tents

Al Haq's information indicates that initially there were six rooms at the prison, three of which measured as much as 100 square metres each. In some cases, as

many as 170 detainees were placed in one of these rooms; thus each person had, considerably less than one square metre to himself.

Later on, the prisoners were themselves ordered to reconstruct these rooms to create more rooms and cells. At present there are a total of 20 rooms, measuring from 12 to 40 square metres each. An additional 10 small cells were also constructed.

Overcrowding in the rooms and the inadequate size and number of windows and the fact that these are either covered with metal shields or look over a closed area prevent the detainees from getting enough light or fresh air, nor is there adequate space for all to lie down to sleep. A description of some of the rooms follows:

Room 5 measures 5m X 8m. Its four windows are blocked. It holds 57 detainees.

Rooms 6 and 7 are of 6m X 8m in area each. Around 50 detainees are being held in each of them.

The floors of the rooms and cells are reported to be rough and uneven, but the detainees are given only thin mattresses and blankets to sleep on.

The cells in Dahriyyeh are used for solitary confinement. They are small and have no windows. Some detainees were admitted to these cells reported to Al Haq that they are so dark that they were not even able to see the food brought to them.

Reports made to Al Haq indicate that, as well as the rooms and cells at Dahriyyeh, the authorities of the centre are using 6 tents to contain detainees. Each tent is around 10m X 4m in area, and is surrounded by a fence. Each tent holds 23 to 28 detainees.

Comment

Article 9 of the U.N. Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (SMR), provides that all accommodation, and especially all sleeping accommodation, shall meet all requirements of health, with particular regard to cubic content of air, minimum floor space, lighting, heating and ventilation.

Article 11(a) of the SMR also provides that windows shall be large enough to enable the prisoners to read and work by natural light.

The conditions in rooms, cells and tents at Dahriyyeh clearly violate these provisions.

Egyptian fundamentalists say singing is sinful

By Sara El Gammal
Reuters

CAIRO — Egyptian bardline Muslim fundamentalists are prepared to use violence if necessary to persuade this nation of music-lovers that singing is sinful.

"Music is the singing of the devil," said Amira, a 25-year-old student. "Those who listen to it are atheists and those who enjoy it shall go to hell."

"Those fanatical groups are hitting at the heart of what Egyptians love — songs," sociologist Saad El Din Ibrahim told Reuters.

"They have overplayed their hand, and there is the beginning of a backlash," he said. "Egyptians cannot and will not tolerate fanaticism for long."

A student was killed in Assiut, southern Egypt, in March when fundamentalists armed with knives and chains clashed with police after attacking a university theatre for performing what they called a blasphemous play.

Others disrupted wedding parties and university concerts in Cairo, hitting guests and smashing musical instruments and amplifiers.

The leading religious authority in this mainly-Muslim country stepped into the fray this month, giving some consolation to both sides.

Sheikh Gad El Haq Ali Gad El Haq, rector of Cairo's Al Azhar University, ruled that music was not contrary to Islam provided songs were not obscene, did not encourage promiscuity, crime, or the use of drugs or alcohol.

He said there were no verses in the Koran, the Muslim Holy book, or the Hadith, the teachings of the Prophet Mohammed, which directly prohibited songs or music.

"But there are conditions for music and singing. Songs that oppose the teachings of Islam, which praise sinful acts and encourage them are forbidden," he said. "They must not be performed or heard."

A row over the role of Western culture in Egypt surfaced two years ago when Muslim hardliners set fire to theatres and video rental shops in Cairo because they showed plays and films they regarded as immoral.

Fundamentalists insist on strict interpretation of Muslim

teachings and want Egypt ruled under Islamic law.

Sociologist Ibrahim, who teaches at Cairo's American University, said violent splinter groups were swimming against the tide in a country that had long been a cradle of Arab culture and produced leading singers and composers of Arabic music.

Since civil war destroyed Beirut as an Arab playground, Cairo has attracted performers and fans from around the Arab World. Egyptian belly-dancers, visitors claim, rival Turkey's.

Ibrahim said fundamentalists were out of step with most Egyptians when they said singers Abdul Halim Hafiz and Om Kolthoum were baram (forbidden).

"The bulk of Egyptians have liked their songs for years. They are part of their heritage," he said.

As many people listen to Abdul Halim's ballads today in Egypt and other Arab countries as they did before his death a decade ago.

And so popular was Om Kolthoum that huge crowds — some say a million people — turned out for her funeral in 1975. Her recordings are still big sellers.

After the incident in Assiut, which is known as a fundamentalist centre, leading comedian Adel Imam defied threats and performed at a theatre there.

Officials said there had been no performances in the theatre for five years for fear of clashes with hardliners.

Imam said he was showing fundamentalists he was not afraid of them. Hundreds of fans, protected by truckloads of riot police, came to the show in a gesture of support.

But fundamentalists like Amira refuse to listen to music or songs, even if they are religious. She said hers was the view "of Allah (God), his Prophet Mohammed and religious scholars before us."

Others are not against music in principle but have strict rules for performances.

Abdul Aziz, a 28-year-old accountant, said only the tamhourne, used during the prophet's days, could be drummed for public announcements, at weddings and religious festivals.

Cairo gets new opera house

By John Rogers
Reuters

CAIRO — So shiny is the marble entrance hall of Cairo's new Japanese-built opera house that visitors are told to take off their shoes to keep it that way.

The opera house, replacing one destroyed by fire in 1971, is the latest palace in a city of mosques, minarets and former royal residences.

The old opera, built in 1869 to celebrate the opening of the Suez Canal, was a landmark in the Egyptian capital, which prides itself on being an artistic centre for the Middle East.

After it was gutted, concerts continued in the downtown Gomhouria theatre and other halls.

But the new, \$50-million complex will add style to Cairo music and give the city a hall with good acoustics and modern features such as an orchestra pit which can be raised and lowered.

A million-dollar gala opening is scheduled for October 10, with fireworks and a programme of Arab, Japanese and European

entertainment.

Director Ratiha El Hefny insists the domed, sand-coloured, Islamic-style building on Zamalek island in the Nile River will not be only for the elite.

"I want it to be the main place where everyone can find what he wants from the different arts, not only music," she told Reuters.

The seven-storey building, officially called the Education and Culture Centre, houses a library, art gallery and lecture rooms as well as two concert halls — with 1,200 and 500 seats — and an outdoor theatre.

The lowest regular seat prices will be five pounds (\$2), Hefny says. But there will be one or two pound (40 or 80 cent) tickets for dress rehearsals and specially-priced matinees.

The opening will feature Japanese Kabuki Theatre, traditional Arabic music and some Beethoven. The London Festival Ballet and a Soviet ballet troupe are among acts booked for the first winter season.

Hefny, an operatic soprano and director of Cairo's Arabic

opera — especially Verdi, whose Egyptian Opera Aida has been shown in two big-ticket productions in Egypt in the past 14 months.

But technical director Abdulla El Ayouti says it is just as well there will not be much opera in the first season because he needs time to train more Egyptian technicians.

Ayouti worked for nine years as stage manager at the old opera house and still misses it. "It is easy to have another apartment but not another opera," he said.

Hefny sang in the last performance at the old opera and plans to sing at the opening of the new one, in the "Ode to Joy" finale of Beethoven's 9th symphony.

"My dream was always to perform in this new theatre," she said.

She said the opera house will depend partly on artists sent under sponsorship by foreign governments. For opera productions, she plans to target the Italian embassy.

But Egypt's own musical community — including a symphony orchestra, a conservatoire, opera

and ballet troupes and Arabic music orchestras — will also contribute.

Among innovative productions which Hefny hopes to stage are Arabic versions of Mozart's operas "Ossi fan Tutte" and "The Marriage of Figaro," translated from Italian by Ali Sadek, an Egyptian doctor working in Saudi Arabia.

Critic and baritone Raouf Zaidan says Sadek's modern versions are easier to sing than the classical Arabic into which a handful of other operas have been translated.

"Arabic is as difficult as English but no harder, and it's easier than German," said Zaidan.

The new opera house was conceived when President Hosni Mubarak visited Japan in 1983, and work started in 1985.

Entirely funded by Japan, it is Tokyo's first cultural aid project in the Middle East. While some buildings, materials and fittings come from Egypt and other suppliers, Japan is providing musical instruments, including 18 pianos.

UNRWA helps rebuild ruined Beirut camps

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Palestinian and U.N. relief workers tore at rubble and debris Thursday at the start of a campaign to rebuild Lebanon's devastated refugee camps by clearing away years of rubble and filth.

They started in Beirut's Shatila camp, where some 500 of 2,000 residents have stayed despite its virtual destruction in bitter inter-Palestinian fighting in June.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), under the slogan "Cleanliness is Health," launched a campaign to repair and clean up the camps wrecked by years of fighting and improve living conditions for thousands of refugees.

"It will take at least a year before the families are settled in this camp," Frank de Jonge, UNRWA's director in Lebanon, told reporters as he toured Shatila.

The nearby sprawling Bourj Al Barajneh shantytown also has sustained heavy destruction.

De Jonge, a Dutchman, said about 134 Palestinian families had so far returned to their



The devastated Shatila camp (UNRWA photo)

shacks in Shatila. A larger number went back to Bourj Al Barajneh, he said.

De Jonge said a similar campaign has been conducted in 10 other refugee camps throughout Lebanon.

UNRWA personnel were seen on Thursday patching up holes in Shatila caused by shells and rockets. Some were removing debris blocking the dusty alleyways, while others repaired blown-out water pipes, cleaned sewage and collected garbage.

Work involves repairs to homes, schools and services, including the water system, but no major rebuilding is planned yet.

Some of the camp residents and volunteer workers were recruited for the operation. A two-year-old child stood behind his father, picking up his share of dirt in a dust pan.

"Look, my son Ali is helping out," boasted the father.

The workers said once the rubble was cleared they were to spray insecticide, hose down the streets and alleys and start planting trees.

Shatila residents have complained of the lack of basic hygiene in the stretch-filled camp, where sewage leaking from broken pipes creates huge puddles of filth.

An UNRWA statement said it was funding the clean-up of Lebanon's 12 camps jointly with the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF). Both agencies contributed \$13,000.

"We need of course a lot more," De Jonge said standing amid heaps of rubble and the remains of collapsed buildings in Shatila.

Two Syrian soldiers shot dead in Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — An unidentified gunman killed two Syrian soldiers near a Syrian-manned checkpoint in west Beirut, security sources and witnesses said Friday.

They said the gunman, clad in military fatigues like those used by the Lebanese army, shot dead the soldiers Thursday night using a gun fitted with a silencer. The two Syrians died instantly, about 200 metres from the checkpoint, the sources told Reuters.

Syrian soldiers brandishing automatic rifles and rocket launchers immediately sealed off the Corniche Mazraa area where the soldiers were shot.

"The Syrians were in a state of total panic. They started beating everyone in sight. Look what they have done to my eye," said Bassem Ali who was in the nearby Abu Khidr restaurant when the shooting took place.

The attack was the latest in a string of assaults aimed against the Syrian presence in Lebanon.

Last week a car bomb killed seven Lebanese and wounded three Syrian soldiers in a crowded residential district. On July 1, two car bombs ripped through Syrian-held areas of Beirut and the eastern Bekaa Valley, wounding 47 people.

date for a special session to elect the new president and security arrangements for the session.

The constitution does not specify a date for the election of a president, who is chosen by the 99 members of the unicameral parliament. It refers only to a two-month period, beginning July 23, during which the election process must be completed.

The current parliament was elected for a four-year term in 1972. The civil war which broke out in 1975, has prevented parliamentary elections, and the house has been extending its own term since.

Twenty-two deputies have died since 1972. Gemayel's son has also been vacant since his election in 1982, leaving only 76 members still in the house.

The constitution specifies that the president must be elected by a two-thirds majority. If this is not reached, a second round of balloting follows immediately, with the president being elected on a simple majority of 51 per cent of the votes cast.

According to an un-written national covenant, Lebanon's head of state is a Maronite Catholic, the prime minister a Sunni Muslim and the president of the parliament a Shiite.

The next election will be the eighth since Lebanon's independence from French rule in 1943, and the 14th since the state of Lebanon was first created during the French mandate in 1926.

Bashir Gemayel, the current president's younger brother, was elected president Aug. 23, 1982. But he was assassinated in a bomb explosion Sept. 14, nine days before he was due to assume office.

Election moves

Parliament Speaker Hussein Hussein started consultations with parliamentary blocs Thursday to set a date for the election of a president within two months.

The six-year term of President Amin Gemayel expires Sept. 23. Under the constitution he cannot seek a second consecutive term.

Hussein told reporters his talks with the parliamentary bloc leaders dealt with picking a

Fundamentalists killed

Two pro-Iranian fundamentalist leaders were shot dead in east Beirut where they had fled from Syrian forces, police said Thursday.

They said the bodies of the two leaders of the Jundallah (God's Warriors) group were found riddled with bullets in their home in

the port suburb of Jounieh Tuesday.

The two men, identified as Abdul Karim Mohammad Al Badawi and Abdul Karim Marei Khalil, were active in the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli until Syrian troops deployed in 1986.

Security sources in east Beirut said that since their defection to the Christian sector the two men had become active against Syria's military presence in Lebanon.

A third man, Kanaan Naji, leader of the group's underground wing, was reported to have been a target of the killing but to have escaped unhurt, the sources said.

The Jundallah underground had claimed credit for a string of attacks on Syrian checkpoints in north Lebanon and west Beirut.

Jundallah was part of the Ta'weed (Junction) movement led by Sheikh Saeed Shaaban who controlled Tripoli before Syria's deployment.

Al Shiraa says all foreign hostages to be released soon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Beirut weekly magazine Al Shiraa reported Friday that contacts were currently under way for the quick release of the 18 foreigners held hostage by Iranian-backed factions in Lebanon.

"The issue of the foreign hostages held in Lebanon will find its way to a happy ending soon," the magazine quoted an unnamed informed security source as saying.

The report said "high-level contacts are under way between officials of the hostages' nations, especially the United States, and a state that has direct influence on the hostages."

It quoted the sources as saying that "no intermediaries" were involved in the alleged "direct contacts."

"A settlement to the hostages' issue will coincide with the U.S. presidential elections" in early November, the report said. It did not disclose further details.

The magazine gained international fame when it broke the story of secret U.S. arms sales to Iran in return for the release of hostages in 1986. However, its recent reports on the hostages have not all been accurate.

Iran's Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani said Wednesday his country would be prepared to "help solve" the hostages' issue if U.S. President Ronald Reagan released frozen Iranian assets.

"If Reagan were sincere he... would release the Iranian assets," Rafsanjani told the official Islamic Republic News Agency.

"I have said that once he does so then we will use our leverage in Lebanon and help solve the issue of the hostages," he added.

In Washington, White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater responded to Rafsanjani's offer by saying: "No deals. The clearest signal they could send is to release the hostages."

The 18 foreign captives in Lebanon are nine Americans, three Britons, a West German, an Italian, an Irishman, an Indian and two unidentified foreign men.

A former U.S. hostage urged the United States Thursday to consider releasing Iranian assets in exchange for the release of the captive Americans.

"It can be done above board. It can be done legally and openly, and the Americans, I think, would approve of that," said the Rev. Lawrence Jenco, a Roman Catholic priest who was held in Lebanon from January 1985 to June 1986.

Jenco, interviewed on ABC Television's "Good Morning America" programme said, "I absolutely believe we should listen to the Iranians. We're talking about the assets of Iran, and I'm talking about the national assets of America which are nine Americans who are there."

Iran says it is concentrating on ending its war with Iraq and plans no meeting with the Rev. Jesse Jackson about releasing American hostages held in Lebanon.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar planned to meet Friday with the wife of one of the nine kidnapped Americans, Marine Lieutenant-Colonel William Higgins.

Iranian Ambassador to the U.N. Mohammad Jafar Mahdallati said Thursday his country's foreign minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, "doesn't have a mandate to embark on anything other than implementation of the Security Council Resolution 598" on a ceasefire and peace plan to end the war.

Mahdallati said Velayati would "indeed not" see Jackson, the former presidential candidate who said he wanted such a meeting to seek the release of the hostages in Lebanon.

Jackson has discussed the plight of hostages with the U.N. secretary general but is not trying to become a hostage negotiator, an aide to Jackson said Thursday.

Frank Watkins, who was with Jackson in Chicago, said by telephone that Jackson had talked to Perez de Cuellar sometime after last week's Democratic national convention.

Watkins denied a newspaper report that Jackson was seeking a personal meeting with Velayati.

Salvage teams expect richer pickings in Gulf

By Terri Taylor
The Associated Press

DUBAI — Salvage executives in the Gulf have been dubbed "the vultures of war" for profiting from Iraqi and Iranian attacks on ships.

But many among them in Dubai, a shipping centre in the southern Gulf, predict they can double profits when Iran and Iraq sign a ceasefire agreement and the Gulf becomes politically calm again.

The salvagers had earned criticism because of the speed with which they raced to the scene of ship attacks to compete for the job of retrieving sunken or sinking vessels.

The first tugboat on the scene traditionally wins the job, and since the tanker war began escalating in 1984, salvage companies have fought for a share of the work that beckoned once their radios crackled "Mayday, Mayday," the boatman distress signal.

The salvage men defend their role. "Yes, I make money, big money," said one, who didn't want his name used. "But I'm no vulture. I'm an angel of mercy who just happens to get paid for saving ships, cargos, and men's lives."

By the account of Lloyd's shipping intelligence unit in London, 546 tankers, freighters and small boats including salvage tugs, have been caught in the tanker war. Not all put out distress signals. Some sank before help could reach them. Others sank as the salvagers worked on them.

With 24-hour monitoring stations and fleets of fire-fighting tugs and launches, large international companies like the Dutch Smit Tak and Wismuller took the largest share of the work. Salvage claims on a badly damaged tanker can run into tens of millions of dollars.

Local entrepreneurs sprang up from Dubai's port town of Jabel Al South to the entrance to the Strait of Hormuz.

According to one shipping executive, also speaking on condition of anonymity, "every man and his dog with a boat and a radio listening to Channel 16 (the international marine emergency frequency) could become a part-time salvager."

"Occupational hazards"

Not only did they have to contend with the dangers of such a job — flames, toxic chemicals, explosions — they also lived with the fear that while at the salvage job the raiders, Iraqi or Iranian, might come back for a second go at their target.

Last January, the 7,400-ton Salvor was towing the 225,000-ton Cypriot tanker Coral Cape hit by Iraqi missiles when the Iraqi returned to attack again. This time they blasted the Salvor. Killing its British captain and his Filipino chief engineer.

In the first attack, two South Korean seamen were killed. The world's biggest supertanker, the 565,000-ton Seawise Giant, on charter to Iran from Hong Kong, was hit by three

Iraqi bombs. To one side of the tanker ship, the 235,000-ton Spanish export tanker Barcelona, took two hits. On the other side, the Greek-registered shuttle tanker Atgoy escaped the warplanes, but was destroyed by fire.

In several cases salvagers have successfully blasted tankers in half using explosive charges ringed around the middle of the hull. A neat, sealed cut is possible because of a tanker's compartmentalised storage tanks. The huge vessels can then be towed away in more manageable, watertight pieces.

One bizarre-looking example of this innovative process is the 233,788-ton Zarra, struck by Iraqi missiles and beached. The bow of the supertanker is now anchored away from its stern off Jabel Ali.

When the war ends, the type of work for salvagers will change. Instead of rapid response to Mayday alerts, the tugs will work the Iranian coast,

for the lucrative task of clearing ship hulks, reconstructing port facilities and dredging neglected harbours.

Shipping sources say dozens of dilapidated, war-damaged tankers and support vessels from Iran's oil shuttle fleet are in need of major repair or demolition for scrap.

Vessels which cannot be recommissioned are of particular value to scrap metal merchants, who bargain fiercely in Dubai for recycled steel.

"The amount of work that could soon become available all along the Iranian coast is mind-boggling," said one shipping executive, who declined to be named.

Another prime location for salvagers will be the disputed Shatt Al Arab estuary dividing Iran and Iraq. Lloyd's shipping intelligence unit in London estimates that as many as 93 cargo vessels and smaller boats hit in Iraqi attacks during the early 1980s are stranded in the shallow tributary feeding into the northernmost tip of the Gulf.

U.S. policy over more than two decades has been to leave the embassy in Tel Aviv as long as the status of Jerusalem has not been resolved by international arbitration. Especially contentious is the question of Israel's 1967 annexation of Arab Jerusalem.

The issue has periodically come up during U.S. election campaigns, serving as a litmus test for a candidate's support of Israel.

Michael Dukakis, the Democratic candidate this year, said in an interview recently that he would favour locating the embassy in Jerusalem.

Helms, who wants the embassy moved, said in floor debate on his proposal that because both new facilities would be "equally capable of serving as our embassy, subsequent presidents will be able to select which site should serve as the U.S. embassy."

The bill now goes to a joint congressional conference committee to iron out differences and must have the president's signature to become law.

U.S. Senate bill gives green signal to possible Jerusalem embassy move

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Senate has adopted a little-noticed amendment which would allow the United States to move its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem despite international opposition over such a step.

The amendment, proposed by conservative Senator Jesse Helms, was incorporated Wednesday into a \$15-billion appropriations bill adopted by the Senate for the 1989 funding of the State, Justice and Commerce departments.

Helms' provision authorises funds for building two diplomatic facilities in Israel provided that each one "equally preserves the ability of the United States to locate its ambassador or its consular general at that site."

The amendment does not give a dollar figure for the construction project.

The U.S. embassy, along with almost all the other foreign missions in Israel, is currently located in Tel Aviv even though Israel claims Jerusalem is its capital. The United States has a consulate in west

Jerusalem and another in the Arab Jerusalem.

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Police link Abu Nidal to Frankfurt blast

KARLSRUHE, West Germany (Agencies) — Police believe the radical Palestinian Abu Nidal group was behind a bomb attack at Frankfurt airport in June 1985, the federal prosecutor's office said Thursday.

The June 19 bombing, which killed three people and injured 74 others, occurred five days after a U.S. Trans World Airlines plane was hijacked from Athens to Beirut. Several groups claimed responsibility.

A spokesman for the prosecutor's office, Hans-Juergen Foerster, said police had concluded their part of an investigation into the attack. The prosecutor's final report will be published later.

He said the authorities had investigated four Abu Nidal members, Alaaeddin Fouzi, Ali Sirin Ghassan, Hisham Ibrahim Mahmood and Khaled Ibrahim Mahmood.

Mohammad Ali Hamadi, a Lebanese with suspected connections to the radical pro-Iranian group Hezbollah, is on trial in Frankfurt charged with hijacking the TWA plane and killing an American passenger.

An investigating commission has determined that Lihyan agents may have played a role in the attack, the Frankfurter Neue Presse said in a front-page article.

Foerster told the AP the commission had "firmed up" suspicions against Abu Nidal and his supporters.

The prosecutor's office, located in Karlsruhe, is in charge of prosecuting extremist attacks in West Germany.

For more than three years, West German investigators have tried to pin down who planted the bomb and frequently had indicated it may have been the work of Abu Nidal.

In its report Thursday, the Neue Presse newspaper said a special commission of law enforcement officials had been able to identify the attackers.

The newspaper did not provide any names other than Abu Nidal's. Foerster denied the part of the Neue Presse report claiming that officials were seeking arrest warrants against Abu Nidal and the three alleged accomplices.

He did not say when Kurt Rebmann, the chief federal prosecutor, would be ready to bring criminal charges in the case.

Soviets say no diplomatic links in Israelis' visit

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet spokesman said Thursday the visit of an Israeli consular team to Moscow was unrelated to the question of diplomatic links between the two countries, broken off in 1967.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Vadim Perfilov said the five-member Israeli group would deal only with technical questions at the Israeli interests' section of the Dutch embassy.

"This visit is not related to the problem of Soviet-Israeli relations, just as the visit of our Soviet consular group to Israel has no connection to this question," Perfilov said. "They will be handling technical matters."

The Israeli delegation, which includes a former Soviet citizen who emigrated to Israel, arrived Thursday after collecting visas from the Soviet embassy in the Hague.

It is the first Israeli diplomatic team to come to Moscow since relations were broken off by the Soviet Union during the 1967 war.

A Soviet consular group has been in Israel for the past year, officially looking after the interests of Soviet citizens living there and handling problems related to property of the Russian Orthodox Church in Jerusalem.

Perfilov said the Israelis, who said before leaving Tel Aviv they would begin their stay by meeting

ing Soviet Jews at the Moscow synagogue Friday, had been issued with visas initially valid for two months.

"The extension of the stay of the Soviet team in Israel was due to the fact that the work they had to do has taken longer than originally envisaged," he added.

Agreement by the two sides on the exchange of consular teams has come against a background of changing Soviet attitudes — a clear product of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's review of long-held foreign policy positions.

In the past, Moscow insisted that Israel had to withdraw from all Arab territories it occupied in the 1967 war before it would consider restoring diplomatic links with the Zionist state.

Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said earlier this year visits could be resumed on the first day of a Middle East peace conference attended by Israel, the Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Gorbachev himself told a visiting Italian delegation earlier this year he was ready to work to find a way to restore diplomatic links.

"Within the framework of preparations for and holding of an international conference, a way will also be found to restore normal relations between the USSR and Israel," he said.

Israel pulls down Taba fence

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli officials have defused a potential row with Egypt by taking down a fence they had put around an archaeological site in the disputed Red Sea area of Taba.

The fence around the antiquities at Taba, which was erected a week ago, was removed today on the orders of Education Minister Yitzhak Navon, a ministry spokeswoman said Thursday.

"The minister ordered the fence removed due to the extreme sensitivity of this matter," she said.

According to Israeli press reports the fence routed the site, dating from the seventh century B.C., consisted of iron bars and signs reading "State of Israel — Antiquities Division."

Earlier in the week the independent daily Ha'aretz said Egypt-

tian consulate officials in the nearby Port of Elat had complained about the signs.

Israel and Egypt dispute ownership of Taba, a beach resort at the head of the Gulf of Aqaba. It was retained by Israel when the rest of the Sinai peninsula was returned to Egypt under a treaty in 1982.

Cairo says the beach, 700 metres long, is part of Egypt and arbitrators in Geneva are expected to give their verdict on the issue in early September.

A foreign ministry spokesman said the government told Egyptian Ambassador Mohammad Bassiouni that all relevant authorities were opposed to the erection of the fence.

"It was a mistake, a misunderstanding," the spokesman said.

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AMMAN JORDAN

Iran faces growing economic crisis

BAHRAIN (R) — Iran's revolutionary leaders, driven to seek peace with Iraq by a string of battlefield reverses, are facing a growing economic crisis and the threat of social discontent.

Economists and political analysts said a war-battered population, tired with eight years of fighting, is beginning to coalesce more on the economic hardships of everyday life.

With the prospect of peace raised seriously for the first time since the outbreak of war in

September 1980, Iran is finding it increasingly difficult to channel revolutionary fervour into the war, they said.

"You cannot forget the economy for ever," said Mehdi Varzi, director of oil research at Kleinwort Greaveson Securities Ltd in London.

"Over a period of months, maybe even years, Iran has been starving off an economic crisis by belt-tightening... But this can only be done when people are in a state of revolution. The economy is in a mess, people have lost their loved ones and the regime will have a major post-war problem," he noted.

The war dictates every aspect of the economy. Leaders have cut back sharply on all but essential imports, controlling access to foreign exchange and allowing inflation to surge over 50 per cent as thriving black market pushes prices sky high.

Industry has been starved of investment and spare parts, unemployment has been masked by mobilisation to the warfront.

As oil revenues slumped in recent months, payment delays surfaced on some 4 to 5 billion

dollars of short-term trade debt built up with Western banks and there are signs Tehran has been quietly borrowing to finance arms purchases.

That would be a dramatic reversal of policy for a regime that in 1981 repaid overnight nearly \$7 billion of debt from the Shah's regime in a deal to release U.S. hostages and in the early years of the war paid cash for imports.

But it is also entirely consistent with the new brand of pragmatism championed by military chief Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani that appears to have won an upper hand among the leadership, exemplified by the shock decision 10 days ago to agree to a U.N. ceasefire order.

Analysts say an end to fighting could ironically add to Tehran's social and economic problems in the short-term as the expectations of a deprived and rapidly growing population rise.

"While there is a war on, people's attention is focused elsewhere," said Richard Vernon, a manager at the London-based oil consultancy Petroleum Economics Ltd. "As a source of nationalisation diversifies attention."

A long-simmering dispute within the leadership over land reform and the role of the private sector could come to a head, threatening a dispute with powerful merchants whose support for

Khomeini was a key factor in the downfall of the shah in 1979.

The "interventionists" who argue for more state control and distribution of land, won the upper hand in April parliamentary elections and could find a ceasefire suits their purposes.

"If internal dissatisfaction rises in the aftermath of the war and inflation is not brought under control, reforms might go ahead and would be seen to be offering something tangible to the ordinary people," said one Iranian analyst.

Iran has sought to break out of its diplomatic isolation, rekindling relations with Canada, France and Britain.

Earlier this month, it obtained about \$1 million (\$1.7 million) from Margaret Thatcher's government in a deal settling claims by both nations after damage to their embassies in London and Tehran several years ago.

Access to Western government credit lines — enjoyed by Iraq through most of the war despite a poor payments record — will be essential if the huge job of post-war reconstruction starts.

Iran had been buying goods recently on 180-day letters of credit guaranteed by Western banks, but as funds become tight exporters have been asked to accept 360-day deals.

Despite payment delays ac-

centuated during February and March's "war of the cities" when large numbers of Tehran's population fled to escape Iraqi missiles, banks have generally played along with longer payment terms.

Some analysts say Tehran began sounding out Western banks at the end of last year on non-trade credits, raising small amounts from banks anxious to establish a toe-hold in anticipation of a post-war reconstruction boom.

while Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's surprise decision to seek peace was dictated by battlefield setbacks and crumbling army morale, analysts say Iran was also forced into a corner by sheer lack of cash as world oil prices slumped.

Petroleum Economics' Vernon said that until mid-1986 Iran was able to feed its war machine and shield its population from economic hardship at the same time, but when oil prices started to slide that was no longer possible.

Before the oil squeeze, Tehran's armies still enjoyed the military initiative, morale was high and analysts believe the defence budget was kept to less than 10 per cent of gross domestic product compared with nearly 60 per cent in Iraq.

Jordanian expatriates to receive financial aid

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government has decided to allocate JD 500,000 to subsidise salaries of expatriate Jordanians who receive less wages than the Jordanian salary scales, according to Al-Dustour Arabic newspaper.

The paper said that Jordan is currently holding contacts with North Yemen, Sudan, and Algeria to try to find jobs for unemployed Jordanian doctors, teachers and engineers.

The paper also quoted health ministry officials as saying that opportunities now exist for Jordanian doctors, specialists and surgeons to get employment in Libya.

It said that the Ministry of Health was receiving applications from Jordanian physicians from now until the end of this month.

In a related subject, the Amman Chamber of Industry was reported by Al-Dustour to have circulated a request to all industrial firms in the Kingdom to offer training to Jordanian engineers and to look into the prospect of employing them.

The paper said that the move was being coordinated with the Jordanian Engineers Association.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday rates					
Local sell/buy rates in J.S.					
Belgian franc (for 10)	94.9	95.8	Saudi riyal	99.0	100.0
Dutch guilder	175.8	177.6	Syrian	11.0	12.0
French franc	26.8	27.1	Lebanese lire	1.15	1.20
Italian lire (for 100)	277.8	280.6	Kuwaiti dinar	1305.0	1315.0
Japanese yen (for 100)	277.8	280.6	Egyptian pound	162.2	167.5
Swedish crown	57.7	58.2	Qatari riyal	102.2	103.5
Swiss franc	238.5	240.9	UAE dirham	101.5	102.0
U.K. sterling pound	633.7	640.0	Omani riyal	970.0	970.8
U.S. dollar	366.2	370.2	Bahraini dinar	980.4	990.0
W. German mark	198.4	200.4			

JORDAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Ministry of Industry and Trade	663191	Jordan Commercial Centres	
Ministry of Supply	602121	Corporation	603507
Ministry of Finance	636321	Free Zones Corporation	642001
Ministry of Planning	644466	Amman Financial Market	660170
Ministry of Labour	621186	Amman Chamber of Commerce	666151
Ministry of Communications	847391	Amman Chamber of Industry	644747
Ministry of Agriculture	639391	Association of Banks in Jordan	662238
Income Tax Department	660151	Jordan Association of Insurance Companies	647370
Amman Customs Department	633171	General Statistics Department	846171
Central Bank of Jordan	772181	Jordanian Businessmen Association	680663
Social Security Corporation	643000		
Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation	721194		

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.7070/80	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.2095/2105	Canadian dollar	
	1.8800/10	Deutsche marks	
	2.1205/15	Dutch guilders	
	1.5640/50	Swiss francs	
	39.70/80	Belgian francs	
	6.3300/50	French francs	
	1386/1387	Italian lire	
	133.00/10	Japanese yen	
	6.3950/00	Swedish crowns	
	6.8020/70	Norwegian crowns	
	7.1280/1330	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	432.50/432.90	U.S. dollars	

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — The market closed higher with quiet trade boosted mainly by New York's improved performance Thursday. The All Ordinaries index closed 10.9 points higher at 1,611.

TOKYO — Prices closed higher in widespread buying despite afternoon profit-taking. The Nikkei index rose 115.54, or 0.42 per cent, to 27,911.63.

HONG KONG — Share prices closed higher on improved sentiment after rises in Tokyo and New York. The Hang Seng index ended 15.47 points higher at 2,678.92.

SINGAPORE — Share prices closed higher across the board but below the highs due to some profit-taking in the afternoon. The Straits Times Industrial index rose 6.77 points to 1,143.44.

BOMBAY — Share prices recovered strongly on encouraging corporate news. They said reports the government would approve an expansion programme by Tata Iron and Steel Company Ltd boosted market sentiment.

FRANKFURT — Shares prices closed a quiet bourse higher but off the session's best levels, boosted by a rising dollar and Thursday's gains of shares on Wall Street. The Dax 30-share index closed 15.72 points or 1.3 per cent up at 1,811.72.

ZURICH — The stock market closed higher spurred by the firmer Wall Street close and the good performance of Far Eastern stock exchanges. Towards the close, the All Share Swiss index was up 5.1 to 884.

PARIS — French shares ended higher after a quiet day as the market wound down for the traditionally low-key August holiday period. The 50-share bourse indicator posted gains of 1.37 per cent.

LONDON — Equity prices were at the day's highs in late trading, assisted by gains on Wall Street and buying for the new account which begins Monday. At 1513 GMT, the FTSE 100 was 9.9 up at 1,851.2.

NEW YORK — Wall Street stocks halted their slide and began to gain again in late morning. The Dow 30 was up 12 points at 2095.

Taiwan-China trade soars

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan's indirect trade with China is surging and economists said Thursday that it could hit a record \$2.5 billion this year.

A decision by the ruling Nationalist Party this month to relax a ban on imports of raw materials from China and allow Taiwan businessmen to invest in the mainland is likely to result in a flood of trade through Hong Kong.

Hou Chia-Chi, an economics professor at Soochow University, said in an interview he estimated the value of two-way trade would rise to between \$2.2 billion and \$2.5 billion this year and to over \$3 billion in 1989.

Trade jumped to \$695 million between January and April, 1988, from \$431 million a year earlier, according to the privately run Chung-Hwa Institution for Economic Research.

Trade was worth a record \$1.52 billion last year.

Taiwan last week announced a list of 20 items from China that would soon be allowed into Taiwan. It included coal, cotton, zinc, wood pulp, raw steel, raw silk, natural rubber and metal ingots.

Vincent Siew, director of the government board of foreign trade, last week said: "We expect rising indirect trade with the mainland because of growing imports of Chinese materials."

Taiwan now allows indirect imports of 30 Chinese goods, mostly herbal medicines. It has banned direct trade with China since 1949, when the Nationalist government was driven to Taiwan by the Communists in a civil war.

Exporters of textiles, footwear, toys and sporting goods have lost orders to their main Asian trading rivals because of a 40 per cent appreciation of their currency against the U.S. dollar in the past two years.

Many have already illegally started factory operations on the mainland, where costs are cheaper, and begun buying materials from China. Others have held back, fearing long jail sentences if caught.

Dukakis attacks too many takeovers

NEWARK, New Jersey (R) — Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis hit the campaign trail Thursday with a slashing attack on big business for hurting the U.S. economy in a takeover binge.

"We've got to control the merger and acquisition binge that's wasting capital, threatening jobs and destroying competition," the Massachusetts governor said at a rally in nearby Secaucus before about 1,000 people.

He did not specify how he would control mergers if he were elected president.

Dukakis called for increased investment in education, research and development, technology, and job training to create more jobs and expand the economy.

He also called on President Reagan to sign a bill which would give 60 days' advance notice of plant closings.

Reagan has threatened to veto the bill, although some Republican leaders are urging him to change his mind on the politically

sensitive issue. Reagan must decide on the plant closing bill by Aug. 3.

Raising wages

Dukakis's vice presidential running-mate Lloyd Bentsen made a pitch in San Francisco Thursday for the labour vote, saying a Dukakis administration would raise the minimum wage.

The Texas senator, on his first solo campaign trip since he was picked last week by Dukakis, addressed the convention of the 1.3-million-member United Food and Commercial Workers Union.

"My friends, you have experienced seven years of do-nothing Republican indifference. It has been a troubling time for millions of American workers who are turning just as hard as they can, barely managing to stay even," Bentsen said.

He said the Reagan administration was the first administration in half a century that had not proposed or enacted an increase in the minimum wage.

"We believe the minimum wage must be increased," Bentsen said. "You have seen consumer prices rise by 30 per cent since 1981, but the minimum wage has not increased one cent."

White House sees no need for sweeping spending cuts

In Washington, the White House budget office Thursday lowered its estimate of the 1989 federal budget deficit and said across-the-board spending cuts would not be required ahead of the November presidential elections.

The Office Management and Budget projected a deficit of \$140.1 billion in the 1989 financial year, beginning Oct. 1. In February it estimated the deficit at \$142.7 billion.

"If no policy changes affecting the deficit are made between now and next October, no sequester

will be required for 1989," the budget office said in a report accompanying the new estimate.

A sequester is the technical word for across-the-board cuts in spending that would be triggered by federal law if the deficit estimate were too high.

The budget office estimated government revenues in the 1989 financial year would fall \$140.1 billion short of projected spending.

The projection is an update of the forecast made by the administration in February and reflects spending decisions and new federal regulatory programmes put in place since then.

A final estimate of the 1989 deficit is not due until Aug. 25, but the Thursday projection signals that the Reagan administration and Congress probably will be able to avoid across-the-board spending cuts.

Under federal budget law, such cuts would be triggered if the deficit exceeded \$146 billion.

The administration used the budget office report to warn Con-

gress against a spending spree on the eve of the new financial year.

Of particular concern to the White House is a farm aid bill that administration officials fear could push federal spending estimates above an agreed ceiling between now and Oct. 1.

"Any increases in discretionary spending over the levels specified in the bipartisan budget agreement will need to be offset by reductions in other such spending," it said.

The bipartisan budget agreement, which set spending ceilings for both social and defence programmes for the two-year period 1988-89, was reached between White House officials and congressional leaders last November, after concern about mounting federal red ink helped send the stock market to a disastrous crash in October.

A key factor in the latest forecast was the impact of the drought in the Midwest on spending estimates, the administration said.

It said the drought had sent

commodity prices soaring, cutting estimates of farm subsidies, which are based on prices, by \$6 billion in 1989.

The administration projected 1989 revenues of \$974 billion and outlays of \$1.11 trillion.

It said revenue estimates had risen by \$9.2 billion since February, primarily because of revised assumptions about personal income and corporate profits.

It said spending estimates had increased by \$6.6 billion since February, mainly due to higher interest costs and additional aid to ailing thrifts and banks.

The 1989 deficit ceiling set in the law is actually \$136 billion but the law allows spending to exceed the target by \$10 billion before across-the-board cuts are triggered.

The budget office estimated the deficit for the current financial year, which ends Sept. 30, at \$152 billion, about \$5.6 billion above its February estimate.

The deficit target for the current year is \$144 billion.

Subroto expects higher oil prices

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — OPEC Secretary-General Subroto was quoted Friday as saying he expected an oil price increase over the coming weeks because of the possibility of an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

The statements by Subroto, who heads the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), were published in the United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Itihad.

Subroto was in the UAE on a two-day visit for discussions on the oil market situation with his leaders ahead of the OPEC five-panel pricing committee meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland Aug. 3.

The state-run Al Itihad quoted Subroto as saying that the world market "looks forward to positive results" from the pricing committee. It said he expressed his expectation of an increase in oil prices over the coming weeks.

In Subroto's view, according to the paper, the prices have been improving because of the prospects of a peaceful end to the nearly 8-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

That settlement would lead to "positive impact" on the oil market and oil prices, the paper further quoted Subroto as saying.

But it said he could not predict whether prices would increase beyond the OPEC benchmark of \$18 a barrel.

He said a report was being prepared on reorganisation of the OPEC framework and that the report would be submitted to the ministerial council of the organisation at its bi-annual meeting in November, according to Al Itihad. But there was no elaboration on this score.

Subroto was in Saudi Arabia before coming to the UAE as part of a tour of OPEC member states aimed at acquiring assurances about adherence to the group's production quotas so as to help stabilise world oil prices around the \$18 benchmark.

Because of the Iran-Iraq war, Iraq has refused to accept its OPEC-decreed quota and produces almost double what it is assigned, while Iran is widely accused of discounting prices to market its crude oil under the war-time conditions.

That could change if the war came to an end, because the hopes by Subroto and others who say that the prices could rise.

Other OPEC member states are also accused of violating production and pricing rules of the group.

The UAE was held responsible for a price decrease in June after it served notice that it would ignore its OPEC oil production quota of

948,000 barrels and produce about 50 per cent more as it considered its "fair" quota should be 1.5 million barrels per day.

Oil sources here said that Subroto was seeking a compromise regarding the UAE claim.

Subroto has conferred with UAE Oil Minister Mana Saeed Otaiba and with UAE President Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan to whom he delivered a message from the OPEC president and Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman.

The official Emirates News Agency WAM reported after the meetings Thursday that Sheikh Zayed affirmed his nation's support for "unity and cohesion" within the organisation and noted that his country "has always been at the forefront for boosting OPEC decisions and supporting the stability of the oil market."

The WAM report did not specifically address the controversial issue of UAE oil production, but indicated that the UAE will not undermine the group by adopting unilateral decisions within the 13-nation group before the full-scale annual ministerial meeting in November.

Subroto also told Al Itihad that the sheikh affirmed to him the UAE's "support and consolidation" of OPEC. He said he was submitting a report to the pricing committee on his talks in the UAE as well as Saudi Arabia and that the Lausanne meeting would also discuss the UAE quota request.

The pricing committee, whose members are oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Indonesia, Algeria and Venezuela, was meeting in wake of the Iranian decision to accept a U.N. Security Council cease-fire resolution to its war with Iraq.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Mill marries Evert today

BOCA RATON, Florida (AP) — Andy Mill said he used to enjoy watching Chris Evert's tennis matches on television. When he first saw her in person on a cold new year's eve in Colorado nearly 19 months ago, he said he fell in love. On Saturday, he and Evert will exchange wedding vows at the polo club in Boca Raton. "I was really nervous about who this person was because, well, celebrities and athletes are a dime a dozen," said Mill, a 35-year-old former U.S. Olympic skier. "I was real concerned with getting to know this little person here. I didn't want to talk about Martina (Navratilova) or the Grand Slam. ... I wanted to talk about Chris." About 100 family members and friends, including tennis stars Navratilova and Pam Shriver and actress Lynda Carter, are expected to attend the ceremony. Both Evert and Mill were ending eight-year marriages when they first met.

Billy Bonds finally retires

LONDON (R) — West Ham United veteran midfielder Billy Bonds, the English Football League's oldest player, has decided to finally retire after 660 league games and become the club's youth coach. Bonds, 42 in September, began his career with Charlton in 1964 and moved to West Ham three years later. Last season he was recalled from semi-retirement to play 23 league games when the club had injury problems.

Ethiopian wins gold medal at world meet

SUDBURY, Ontario (R) — Addis Abebe, 18, of Ethiopia, won the first gold medal at the World Junior Athletics Championships Wednesday when he took the 10,000 metres in 28 minutes 42.13 seconds. Compatriot Bedelu Kibret won the silver medal in 28:48.55 and Kenyan James Songok captured bronze with a time of 28:50.42. The 10,000 metres was the only final on the first of five days of international competition for more than 1,150 athletes aged 19 and under. African athletes, traditionally strong in long-distance events, dominated the race, with six runners in the top 10.

Anderlecht seeks Polish striker

WARSAW (R) — Belgian soccer champions Anderlecht have joined the chase for Polish international striker Dariusz Dziekanowski of Legia Warszawa, Legia coach Andrzej Strojilau said Thursday. Strojilau told the newspaper Zycie Warszawy that Anderlecht officials were in Warsaw for talks but gave no further details. Italian side Pescara have also expressed an interest in Dziekanowski, Poland's top goalscorer last season, but talks broke down earlier this month.

Archibald ends contract with Barcelona

BARCELONA, Spain (R) — Scottish striker Steve Archibald ended his contract with Barcelona Thursday after four years with the club, a Barcelona spokesman said. Archibald, 31, still had two years with the Catalans but the club said he did not figure in new trainer Johan Cruyff's plans for this season. Archibald, who has no firm offers to join any other club, said he was going with a certain bitterness over what had happened but was happy to see an end to his problems with Barcelona. He spent the second half of last season on loan to English second division side Blackburn Rovers as the two foreign players with Barcelona the club were taken by England's Gary Lineker and West German Bernd Schuster. Schuster has now joined Barcelona's arch-rivals Real Madrid. Archibald signed for Barcelona from Tottenham in 1984 for £900,000 (\$1.55 million). The club would not say what they were paying him in compensation.

Tita leaves Leverkusen over pay dispute

LEVERKUSEN, West Germany (R) — Brazilian soccer international Tita is leaving UEFA Cup holders Bayer Leverkusen because of a pay dispute, the West German club said Thursday. Leverkusen said they would seek \$400,000 compensation from any future club, the same amount they paid Rio de Janeiro club Flamengo for the 22-times capped midfielder in 1987. New coach Rinus Michels, who took The Netherlands to the European Championship last month, said: "Such a player normally forms part of any trainer's plans, but a dissatisfied player does not."

Migeot to join Tyrrell

LONDON (R) — Former Ferrari aerodynamicist Jean-Claude Migeot will join the Tyrrell motor racing team in September, the British Formula One team announced Friday. Frenchman Migeot, 35, worked for Renault for four years before joining Ferrari where he worked on development of the Italian team's Formula One cars for three years. He left recently during Ferrari's engineering management restructuring. His appointment follows that of British designer Harvey Postlewaite who has also recently left Ferrari. He takes over as Tyrrell's engineering director on August 1.

Tennis fans demand 'money back'

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — An out of form Wimbledon champion Steffi Graf endured the rare insult of hearing a chanting crowd demand their money back at the \$200,000 Hamburg women's tennis tournament Thursday. Graf, winner of the Australian, French and Wimbledon titles this year, eventually subdued Yugoslav Sabrina Goleis, ranked 46th in the world, 6-2, 6-2 but only after she became furious with herself at the number of unforced errors she committed. The West German's usually lethal forehand missed the intended target so often that some of the 3,000 spectators started taunting her by shouting for a refund. Graf trailed 3-0 in the first set before managing to reverse the trend and win the set in 43 minutes — five minutes longer than she took to beat Czechoslovak Regina Mariskova in the second round.

Noah advances in Bordeaux tennis

BORDEAUX, France (AP) — Yannick Noah of France struggled but advanced to the second round in the \$245,000-Grand Prix passing shot men's tennis tournament Wednesday. The top-seeded Noah lost the first set in a tiebreaker then outlasted Guillermo Rivas of Argentina, 6-7, 7-5, 6-3. Noah returned to France from Sweden where he lost to Mats Wilander in the opening singles match of the Davis Cup semifinals. After Sweden clinched the tie, he passed up the remaining singles. Another participant from the France-Sweden encounter, Kent Carlsson of Sweden, also won on Wednesday. Carlsson, seeded No. 2 in the tournament, defeated Pat Baur of West Germany, 6-3, 6-2. In second round matches, Thomas Muster of Austria, seeded No. 3, ousted Claudio Pistolesi of Italy, 6-2, 6-1. Lawson Duncan of the United States, No. 8, whipped Alberto Tosi of Spain, 6-2, 6-0, and Luis Mattar of Brazil, No. 6, downed Fernando Luna of Spain, 6-4, 6-4. Play continues through Sunday with a \$43,000 first prize.

Greek and Turkish teams draw in friendly

ATHENS (R) — Greece's Aek drew 2-2 with Turkish first division champions Galatasaray Wednesday in the first soccer match between teams from the two countries for 21 years. A crowd of 35,000 watched the match which was highlighted by two goals by Galatasaray striker Cevad Prekazi. Stormy relations between the two NATO allies have improved since the two prime ministers met in the Swiss resort town of Davos last January and agreed to find peaceful solutions to outstanding disputes.



Said Aouita

Aouita wins 800 metres

VERONA, Italy (R) — Multi-talented Said Aouita cruised to a comfortable 800 metres victory in the sticky heat of Verona's Golden Gala athletics meeting Wednesday and confirmed he would run the distance in Seoul. The diminutive Moroccan glanced briefly behind him as he crossed the line in one minute 44.64 seconds ahead of Britain's Peter Elliott, second in 1:44.75.

The 1,500 and 5,000 metres world record-holder began in low gear, running the first 200 metres in penultimate position before moving slowly up the field with Elliott on his shoulder.

The two men broke away with 150 metres to go but Elliott could not match the versatile Moroccan's finish.

Senegal's Moussa Fall was third in 1:45.03.

"I could have gone earlier, but I didn't feel like it," a smiling Aouita said after the race.

Asked if he planned to run in both the 1,500 and 800 metres at the Olympics games, the 27-year-old Moroccan said: "Yes, I choose what I want to run in now. No-one tells me what I should do."

He said he no longer wanted to compete at 5,000 metres, the event in which he is the current world and Olympic champion.

"The 1,500 metres is my preferred distance now," he added.

Sochaux set to stay on top in France

PARIS (R) — Newly-promoted first division leaders Sochaux will be hoping to continue their unexpectedly bright start to the French soccer season Saturday when they entertain 12th place Laval.

After moving to the top with two wins in their opening three matches, the impressive young Sochaux side will be seeking another victory to keep them ahead of second-placed Lille and the more established Giants of French soccer.

Lille entertain Bordeaux, who will be without their former England striker, Clive Allen. The ex-Tottenham player was injured Wednesday when he scored his first goal for his new club from a penalty against Montpellier.

Champions Monaco, lying fifth after two draws and one victory, travel to Nancy to meet another newly-promoted club, Caen, in a fixture which will see four other former England players in opposition.

The Riviera club include midfielder Glenn Hoddle and striker Mark Hateley in their expensive assembly team for the second successive season.

Caen, struggling already after three successive defeats, include ex-Arsenal midfielder Graham Rix and ex-Luton striker Brian Stein, both signed during the close season.

In West Germany, much attention will be focused on Eintracht Frankfurt's temperamental goalkeeper Uli Stein who, with Toni Schumacher gone to Turkey, has emerged as the "enfant terrible" of the Bundesliga.

Stein is lucky to be able to play for Frankfurt against Stuttgart Kickers Saturday.

Stein, sacked by Hamburg two years ago after biting an opponent, was sent off in the first match of the season last weekend for insulting the referee.

He escaped a ban and was fined 5,000 marks (\$2,800) for his outburst as Frankfurt lost 3-0, a defeat which has left them sitting at the foot of the table.

They should be able to make up ground Saturday, however, as Stuttgart Kickers, like the other newly-promoted team St. Pauli, lost at home last week. The defeat was greeted by taunts of "only 33 games to go before relegation again."

Leaders Borussia Moenchengladbach travel to meet Bayer

Leverkusen, now trained by The Netherlands' European-Championship winning coach Rinus Michels. Leverkusen will be without Brazilian striker Tita who is set to leave the club.

Second and third-placed Karlsruhe and Bayern Munich meet in Karlsruhe. Champions Werder Bremen travel to Kaiserslautern.

Norway, Brazil tie 1-1

In Oslo, striker Bernades Edmar spared Brazil's blushes with a goal nine minutes from time which earned the South Americans a 1-1 draw with Norway in the first game of their three-match European soccer tour Thursday.

The Brazilians dominated the first half but fell behind four minutes into the second half when Jan Aage Fjærtoft — Norway's leading amateur scorer — rifled home a shot from seven metres.

The Norwegians, fielding only six professional players but boosted by Fjærtoft's opportunistic goal, squandered a couple of

close-range opportunities in the second half before Edmar equalised with a goal from point blank range.

Brazil face Sweden in Stockholm Sunday and Austria in Vienna Wednesday.

In Madrid, Spanish soccer club Atletico Madrid have dismissed three key players — for being single, smoking too much and answering back.

The players' lawyers, shocked by accusations which they claim are not valid reasons for being fired, were meeting the club's lawyers to contest the decision.

Outspoken club president Jesus Gil sent letters to former captain Juan Arceche, defender Quique Setien Tuesday, advising them they had been dismissed without compensation, an official spokesman for Gil said.

In his letter to Setien, Gil criticised the player for being single, saying he should have a wife to organise his life and take care of his washing and cooking.

Gil also accused Arceche of smoking too much and devoting too much time to his private shoe business and not enough to his soccer, and attacked Ramos for criticising him, disobeying the club coach and not training hard enough.

Agassi beats Pugh to reach tennis quarterfinals

STRATTON MOUNTAIN (R) — Second seed Andre Agassi survived a rocky start against 16th-seeded fellow American Jim Pugh to advance to the quarterfinals of the \$602,500 International Grand Prix tennis tournament.

Agassi, ranked fifth in the world, changed his game plan after dropping the first set and went on to win 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Roger Smith of the Bahamas, who stunned world number one Ivan Lendl Wednesday, scored his first career third round victory in a Grand Prix event with a comfortable 6-1, 6-4 win over unseeded American Eric Amund.

Two more seeded players fell on Thursday. Marty Davis took full advantage of an erratic performance by fellow American Aaron Krickstein, the fifth seed, to advance 6-3, 6-4. In a minor

upset, 10th-seeded American Jay Berger ousted seventh seed Peter Lundgren of Sweden 6-2, 6-3.

At the start of the second set, Agassi began hitting high arching lobs in an effort to force Pugh out of his baseline groove. The tactic worked beautifully as Pugh had trouble returning the high bouncing shots.

"He was counter-punching real well, hitting the ball real well, and I wanted to give him a chance to think," Agassi said of his change in tactics.

Agassi broke Pugh in the fourth game of the second set to go up 3-1 and then found his rhythm and began pounding his trademark explosive forehands past the 16th seed.

The second seed then surged to a 4-1 lead in the deciding set and held on for the victory.

Olympic chief makes last ditch appeal to N. Korea to attend Seoul games

SEOUL (R) — Olympic chief Park Seh-jik Thursday made a last ditch appeal to North Korea to attend the Seoul games so that the divided Korean peninsula can show "a proud united people to the world."

Park, marking the 50-day countdown to the Olympic opening ceremony on Sept. 17, also urged political dissidents and student activists to keep a low profile before and during the games. "It is my hope that for the 50 days remaining, the people of Korea will rally together, discarding individual or special group interests, and make all efforts to prepare for the Olympics," he told a news conference.

Park, a 54-year-old retired army general who heads the Seoul Olympic Organising Committee (SLOOC), said it was still

not too late for the North to participate in the games. "We have made every arrangement to accommodate them. There are rooms still reserved for North Koreans in the athletes' village and there are places reserved for their participation in the opening and closing ceremonies," he said.

Pyeongyang is boycotting the Olympics because its demands to co-host the games were refused by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch told reporters in Lausanne Tuesday that North Korea could still participate in the Seoul games if it accepted a final compromise offer to host some archery, table tennis, women's volleyball, cycling and soccer events.

Despite the fact that the IOC and SLOOC continue to hold the door open for Pyongyang's participation, it is widely believed that the logistics of changing the venues and schedules to North Korea at such a late stage would make this impossible.

"I'd eat my hat if we see Olympic events in Pyongyang," said one Western diplomat involved in his country's preparations for the games. "But it is still not too late for the North to send a team of athletes to Seoul. The infrastructure could cope with that."

South Korea's ruling and opposition parties Wednesday agreed in principle to a North Korean offer to hold parliamentary talks between both sides in mid-August.

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Moses starts European programme in Spain

NEW YORK (R) — World 400 metres hurdles record holder Ed Moses will open his European season on August 4 in Coruna, Spain, his business manager Gordon Baskin said Wednesday night.

Moses, who will be going for his third Olympic gold medal in the Seoul games later in the year, will also compete on August 8 in Malmo, Sweden, and on August 12 in Budapest.

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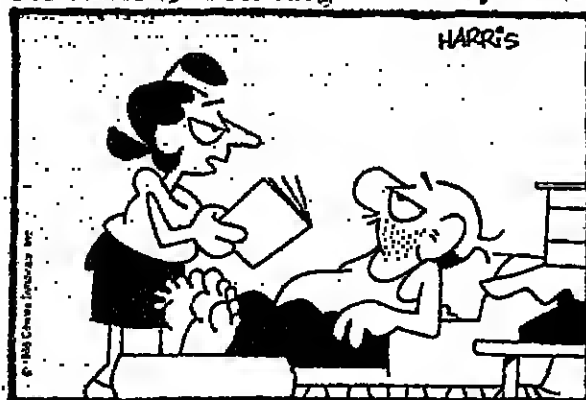
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THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"According to my old diary, I married you for your money and your body. Guess I need a new excuse!"

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Sihanouk declares Bogor talks success

JAKARTA (Agencies) — Kampuchean leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk Friday declared peace talks this past week a success, then left Indonesia to continue efforts to end a decade of war in his homeland.

Sihanouk, the central figure in efforts to oust Vietnamese troops that entered Kampuchea in late 1978, left for Bangkok, Thailand, after a meeting with Vice-President Sudharmono.

Government officials said he was to leave Bangkok Saturday for China, which strongly backs the guerrillas and where Sihanouk has spent much of his exile. The prince then goes to Japan, which announced earlier this month it might fund a peacekeeping force he has proposed for post-war Kampuchea.

Officials in Thailand said he is scheduled to guide British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on a visit to his base on the Thai-Kampuchean border Aug. 7.

During Sihanouk's stay in Jakarta, Vietnam, the guerrilla factions, Kampuchea's Vietnamese-backed government, Laos and the six-member Association of South-East Asian (ASEAN) Nations held four days of unprecedented peace talks on the Kampuchean conflict.

ASEAN includes Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Brunei. Sihanouk did not attend the talks in Bogor, 60 kilometres outside Jakarta, but met Wednesday in the capital with the other factions. He reclaimed his high profile on the issue by presenting yet another peace plan and announcing he will hold a third round of separate talks in Paris with Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Kampuchean government in October.

Sihanouk did not attend the Bogor talks because he resigned July 10 as president of the resistance coalition, saying his nominal partner, the communist Khmer Rouge, was killing his men. His son, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, spoke for him at Bogor.

Presidential spokesman Moerdiono said Sudharmono saw the prince off at Merdeka Palace Friday.

According to the spokesman, Sihanouk told Sudharmono that the informal "cocktail party"

talks at Bogor were successful simply because they were held at all.

Sihanouk also called progress the general agreement among participants that the Khmer Rouge regime, which massacred hundreds of thousands of people in Kampuchea in 1975-78, cannot be allowed to return to power.

Thirdly, the prince noted agreement to form working groups, comprising senior officials of all sides to further study the issue and make recommendations for more talks.

Moerdiono said that Indonesia would be pleased to host a second round of talks, and that Sihanouk hinted he also would favour that.

Asian diplomats attending the meeting said the talks did open several avenues to help maintain momentum in the hunt for a Kampuchean settlement.

They said Chinese military support for the Khmer Rouge could be tackled at a Sino-Soviet meeting in Peking in August, while the conference agreed to set up an official-level working committee of all participants to the talks to solve underlying divisions.

Sihanouk has dropped his demand for an international peace-keeping force in Kampuchea, a proposal strongly rejected by Phnom Penh, Hanoi and the Khmer Rouge.

In a five-point formula for peace, he proposed an international control commission instead and, in what was viewed as a concession to Hun Sen, suggested the Phnom Penh bureaucracy remain in place until officials from the coalition joined the administration.

Angola talks resume this week

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States, acting as mediator in negotiations to end the war in Angola, has announced that a new round of peace talks would be held in Geneva in early August.

The State Department said Thursday Chester Crocker, assistant secretary for African affairs, would fly to Geneva July 31 for consultations with a Soviet delegation to discuss the situation in Angola. Moscow has backed the Angola government.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said that after these talks, Crocker would conduct negotiations starting Aug. 2 with representatives from South Africa, Cuba and Angola.

The United States, South Africa, Cuba and Angola announced last week they had accepted these principles in a tentative agreement that would lead to the withdrawal from Angola of Cuban troops who are helping to defend the government. Also under the accord, South African forces who have been supporting the rebel UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) forces led by Jonas Savimbi would pull back.

The principles also call for South Africa to grant independence to Namibia, a neighbouring territory that it rules in defiance of United Nations resolutions.

Cuban President Fidel Castro this week pledged to withdraw his troops from Angola when a peace agreement for the south-western region of Africa was signed.



CHARITY GLIDE: British Royal Marine commando 'Lucy' Lockett sets off on a world record-breaking ascent, gliding down the 195-metre Hopewell Centre in Hong Kong in about four minutes. The feat by Lockett and his colleagues raised more than \$64,000 for a local charity.

Manila says it rejected \$5 b offer from Marcos

MANILA (AP) — President Corason Aquino's executive secretary has confirmed that deposed dictator Ferdinand Marcos offered to pay the government \$5 billion to return home, but that her staff recommended it be rejected.

Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig told reporters Thursday he believed the offer was a ploy by Marcos to avoid possible criminal indictment in the United States.

"We saw it for what it was," Macaraig said. "It was just a ploy to get his U.S. indictment against him suspended. ... I recommended the rejection of the \$5 billion offer."

Macaraig did not say whether Aquino accepted the advice. On Wednesday, she told reporters Marcos should send back the money first "and then we'll talk."

Her government says Marcos, his family and close friends stole as much as \$10 billion during his 20-year administration. Aquino has refused to allow Marcos and his family to return from Hawaii, where they fled after the February 1986 popular uprising ended his rule.

In New York, press reports earlier, this month said that federal prosecutor Rudolph Giuliani had recommended Marcos and his wife Imelda be indicted on fraud and conspiracy charges in connection with acquisition of New York real estate.

U.S. presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater later confirmed the White House had asked to be consulted before the U.S. Justice Department sought any indictment against Marcos.

Researchers find clues to inheritance of asthma

BAR HARBOR, Maine (AP) — Researchers have taken the first steps toward understanding the causes and the inheritance of asthma with the discovery of two asthma-related genes in laboratory mice.

According to Roy Levitt of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions in Baltimore, learning how these genes work could help doctors identify people at risk for asthma and also speed the development of better drugs to treat it.

So far, Levitt and Wayne Mitzner, also of Johns Hopkins, have shown that at least two genes can produce a hypersensitivity in the bronchial tubes of mice.

It is not yet known whether these genes have counterparts in humans, Levitt said.

The increased sensitivity of the airways to drugs or environmental agents, a phenomenon called increased bronchial reactivity, "is one of the hallmarks of asthma," Levitt and Mitzner write in the current issue of the *Faseb Journal*, published by the Federation

of American Societies for Experimental Biology.

Levitt, who presented his findings at a genetics course at the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, said increased bronchial reactivity can lead both to asthma and to a serious lung disorder called chronic obstructive lung disease, in which patients experience extreme difficulty breathing.

The causes of asthma and chronic obstructive lung disease are not known, but inherited genetic factors and exposure to agents in the environment both play a role, Levitt said.

Studies of families in which asthma was inherited showed that even some family members without asthma had inherited an increased bronchial reactivity.

"This seemed to suggest there could be a simple genetic basis for airway hyper-reactivity, asthma and chronic obstructive lung disease," Levitt said.

He and Mitzner developed machines to monitor breathing in laboratory mice, and they have determined that at least two different genes in mice can lead to this bronchial sensitivity.

One of the genes has been shown to be inherited in mice as a recessive genetic trait.

Mandela sends peace message after fire

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Nelson Mandela has ordered that there should be no witch-hunt after his home was burned down and sent a message of peace to South Africa's townships, his lawyer said Friday.

The jailed black nationalist, in a message relayed by lawyer Ismail Ayoh at a news conference, also repudiated a claim by black American businessman Robert Brown last week that he had been appointed to represent the Mandela family interests worldwide.

Ayoh said Mandela was shocked by the news that his home in Johannesburg's Soweto township was gutted by fire Thursday.

"His first question was whether anyone had been hurt," said Ayoh, who visited Mandela in Cape Town's Pollsmoor prison Thursday.

"He ordered that there should be no prosecution or witch-hunt. It is a matter that will be resolved by the people of Soweto," he said.

Police and eyewitnesses said Thursday the small brick house in Soweto's Orlando West district was set alight by a gang of youths from a nearby school who smashed windows and poured petrol through all four rooms.

Ayoh said Mandela had instructed that no report should be made to police about the fire and had told his wife, Winnie, not to make any comment to the press.

"Everything was destroyed. The house was utterly destroyed," Ayoh said, adding that the loss included mementos, letters and documents belonging to Mandela who has been in prison since 1962.

He said the house would be rebuilt over the next few weeks. Mrs. Mandela would not move into the luxury mansion she had built recently in a section of Soweto known as Beverly Hills but would stay with friends.

Ayoh declined to comment on reports that the fire was a result of rivalry between members of a football team known as Mandela

United and youths from a local gang.

"Mr. Mandela was not the object of the attack," he said. "Mrs. Mandela, the Mandela family were not the objects of the attack."

"Community leaders, activists and members of the community are working very hard to resolve this matter," he said.

Ayoh refused to be drawn on the apparent conflict between Mandela's prison statement on Brown and the North Carolina businessman's own comments after visiting Mandela in jail July 23.

"Mr. Robert Brown does not represent the Mandela family's interests in any way," he said.

Ban lifted, reimposed

In another development, the government Friday banned the anti-apartheid film "Cry Freedom," just hours after it opened at cinemas across the country.

Justice Minister Kibie Coetsee said in a statement that further screenings of the film inside South Africa were prohibited under government security laws.

The film depicted the life of black activist Steve Biko and his death in police custody.

The publication appeals board announced earlier Friday that the film could be shown uncensored. The first matinees began as scheduled a half-hour later at some 30 theatres around the country.

However, there was an explosion behind the Kings Cinema in the Alexandra township outside Johannesburg at noon (1000 GMT). The cinema was empty, and no one was injured, he added.

In the southern city of Port Elizabeth, a man called the Ster-Kinekor cinemas 10 minutes before the film was to start and said a bomb had been planted at the movie theatre complex.

The cinema was cordoned off, and the morning showing of "Cry Freedom" was cancelled, but police found no evidence of explosives.

Ex-general poised to become Thai premier

BANGKOK (AP) — Chatichai Choonhavan, a conservative former army general and wealthy businessman, formally announced his nomination as prime minister Thursday after Prem Tinsulanonda rejected an offer to retain the post.

Prem's decision Wednesday to end his eight-year hold on the prime ministership followed elections Sunday in which his former four-party coalition government won a majority of seats in the lower house of parliament.

Chatichai, head of the Chart Thai (Thai Nation) party, the largest coalition member, told a news conference: "The five political parties that will form the coalition government have agreed to support the leader of the largest party, and as that party's leader, I am pleased to accept the nomination."

But Chatichai, an elected member of parliament, had said Wednesday he doubted he could serve a full four-year term as prime minister.

"If I were prime minister, I'm afraid if (the government) won't last more than three months," he told Channel 3 television.

The coalition that backed Prem's last government — and virtually the same one that would put Chatichai in power — has been plagued by divisions and mounting opposition criticism.

Chatichai also lacked the close ties with the nation's powerful military enjoyed by Prem. He previously said he did not want to be prime minister and threw his support behind Prem.

Students and dissidents had staged rallies for three days opposing the presumed nomination of Prem, who did not run for a parliament seat in last Sunday's election.

Canadian airliner reports near-miss with Soviet jet

TORONTO (R) — A Canadian airliner carrying 246 passengers had to climb sharply to avoid two Canadian CF-18 fighters chasing two Soviet military planes off Newfoundland, an airline official said.

The Worldways Canada DC-8, flying from Britain's Gatwick airport to Ottawa and Toronto, reported military aircraft within 160 to 330 metres of its flightpath, Worldways Vice-President Bill Doucette said Thursday.

Doucette said the Canadian airliner was travelling at 9,450 metres over the Atlantic about 12:40 P.M. (1640 GMT) Wednesday when the incident occurred. There were no injuries and the plane flew on to Ottawa and Toronto.

The pilot reported that two Soviet bombers and two Canadian CF-18 fighters were in his path when he "pulled up and pulled right" to avoid collision, Doucette added.

A Defence Department spokesman in Ottawa, Captain Don Roy, said Thursday two Soviet Bear H long-range bombers were intercepted and escorted through the area by two U.S. F-15 fighters. Two Canadian CF-18s were also in the vicinity, he said.

Soviet aircraft appear regularly in Canadian airspace and military planes are sent to intercept them.

COLUMN

Scientist says Turin shroud is convincing

LONDON (R) — A British scientist testing the age of the Turin shroud, which many Catholics believe was Christ's burial cloth, said Thursday: "If this is a fake, it's a very good one." Dr. Robert Hedges, head of the dating unit at Oxford University's laboratory for archaeology and the history of art, added: "I have now a pretty good idea of what I think it is but I'm not going to say." Hedges said he saw the shroud in Turin and "it looked very convincing but it's quite hard to believe that it could survive that long." The Oxford team, the last of three laboratories to test the shroud, is about halfway through the process and Hedges said it was going very smoothly.

Passenger sentenced for plane mischief

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (R) — A Danish man who smoked in an airplane toilet and threw a drink in the pilot's face was sentenced Thursday to 90 days in jail. Ole Svane Thestrup, 40, an actor from Copenhagen, pleaded guilty to a charge of mischief. He was put off the British Airways Boeing 747 at Winnipeg in an unscheduled stop Tuesday. The plane was flying from London to Los Angeles when Thestrup, who was seated in the non-smoking section, went into the plane's toilet to smoke, police said. A smoke alarm went off. Thestrup, who had been drinking, struggled with the crew, tried to open a loading door on the plane and, when challenged, threw a drink in the pilot's face, Winnipeg police said. The aircraft landed in Winnipeg to hand him over to police.

Rare Chinese fossils destroyed

PEKING (R) — Tons of valuable fossils in Inner Mongolia have been dug up, smashed and sold by looters believing them to be medicinal "dragon bones," the Guangming daily said Friday. The newspaper said hundreds of peddlers and smugglers had descended on sites in Qinghai province to dig up animal and plant fossils which they ground to powder for sale as traditional Chinese medicine. It said looters led by local government officials who issued "excavation permits" for 40 yuan (\$11) apiece. The traditional Chinese medicine trade also threatens some protected species, since the most highly prized medicines depend on rare ingredients such as deer antler, bear paw, or panda penis.

Scientists discover carnivorous kangaroo

SYDNEY (R) — Scientists have discovered the remains of Australia's first carnivorous kangaroo which millions of years ago killed its victims with teeth serrated like a steak knife. The modern kangaroo, Australia's national emblem, is a herbivore and until now it was thought the unique bounding marsupial was strictly vegetarian. Doctor Michael Archer, associate professor of zoology at the University of New South Wales, said the first complete skull of the killer kangaroo was dug out of fossil deposits earlier this month. It was found at Riversleigh, a cattle station 250 kilometres north-west of Mount Isa in Queensland. Tests on the skull, estimated to be around 20 million years old, showed the kangaroo — scientific name *Macrotis* — was about 1.5 metres tall and had large premolar serrated teeth, Archer said in a statement released Friday.

THE Daily Crossword by Frank R. Jackson

ACROSS

- 1 Precursor against flu
- 5 Vaughan of song
- 10 Flop
- 14 Type of star
- 15 Flapjacks
- 16 Heraldic band
- 17 Oil-rich sultanate
- 18 Conference
- 20 Kinc. abbr.
- 21 Tops
- 22 Cloth insert
- 23 Illiucity
- 25 Copper
- 26 Turnbust
- 27 Stroked lovingly
- 31 Springfield for one
- 33 Small drum
- 34 Sine — rdn
- 35 Rose's guy
- 36 Cast
- 37 Milk product
- 38 Pouch
- 39 Thin layer
- 40 Disorder
- 41 High-ranking statesmen
- 43 Destitute
- 44 Concerning
- 45 Floor covers
- 46 Very potent beverage
- 51 Fr. river
- 52 Opera house
- 53 Triangular
- 54 Certain ray
- 56 Shakespeare's tragic king
- 57 Omit a syllable
- 58 Decurve
- 59 Is in debt
- 60 Madrid man
- 61 Elated

DOWN

- 1 Explosive sound
- 2 Gr. poet
- 3 Very special workout
- 4 Whip
- 5 Kind of ornament
- 6 Without aid
- 7 Playboy
- 8 Ms. Jillian
- 9 Bush lance
- 10 Sings
- 11 Sphenas
- 12 Fr. mlez. abbr.
- 13 Sugar source
- 14 Planer adjuster
- 15 Proficient
- 16 Air. river
- 17 N. navigular
- 18 Is concerned
- 19 Substantial repeat
- 20 Continental prefix
- 21 Fathers
- 22 Course file
- 23 Building item
- 24 "Over —"
- 25 "Run For —"
- 26 (Ky. Derby)
- 27 New
- 28 Scorch
- 29 Central part
- 30 Gold diggers
- 31 Cater
- 32 "Dine —"
- 33 basely
- 34 Belfa
- 35 de France
- 36 Aquarrium fish
- 37 Endure
- 38 Fr. town
- 39 Muscles
- 40 "Dine —"
- 41 Norse god
- 42 de France
- 43 Entreat

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS: 1. Precursor, 5. Vaughan, 10. Flop, 14. Type of star, 15. Flapjacks, 16. Heraldic band, 17. Oil-rich sultanate, 18. Conference, 20. Kinc. abbr., 21. Tops, 22. Cloth insert, 23. Illiucity, 25. Copper, 26. Turnbust, 27. Stroked lovingly, 31. Springfield for one, 33. Small drum, 34. Sine — rdn, 35. Rose's guy, 36. Cast, 37. Milk product, 38. Pouch, 39. Thin layer, 40. Disorder, 41. High-ranking statesmen, 43. Destitute, 44. Concerning, 45. Floor covers, 46. Very potent beverage, 51. Fr. river, 52. Opera house, 53. Triangular, 54. Certain ray, 56. Shakespeare's tragic king, 57. Omit a syllable, 58. Decurve, 59. Is in debt, 60. Madrid man, 61. Elated.

DOWN: 1. Explosive sound, 2. Gr. poet, 3. Very special workout, 4. Whip, 5. Kind of ornament, 6. Without aid, 7. Playboy, 8. Ms. Jillian, 9. Bush lance, 10. Sings, 11. Sphenas, 12. Fr. mlez. abbr., 13. Sugar source, 14. Planer adjuster, 15. Proficient, 16. Air. river, 17. N. navigular, 18. Is concerned, 19. Substantial repeat, 20. Continental prefix, 21. Fathers, 22. Course file, 23. Building item, 24. "Over —", 25. "Run For —", 26. (Ky. Derby), 27. New, 28. Scorch, 29. Central part, 30. Gold diggers, 31. Cater, 32. "Dine —", 33. basely, 34. Belfa, 35. de France, 36. Aquarrium fish, 37. Endure, 38. Fr. town, 39. Muscles, 40. "Dine —", 41. Norse god, 42. de France, 43. Entreat.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1988

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today is unusually good for extending your interests and activities beyond their present scope, so be up and at 'em early for best results. Don't take chances concerning your finances.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get in touch with close friends concerning mutual pleasures and other activities. Don't commit yourself to important practical affairs.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20) It's a good day to handle civic matters, but not so good for heavy business dealings. Be wise and plan for future benefits.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Don't keep concentrating on something you can do little about. Become very active and accomplish a great deal.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Steer clear of an acquaintance who wants to spoil an idealistic concept you have. Keep busy at keeping promises.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A fascinating individual in the world at large can show you how to gain greater prestige. The evening is fine for requesting favors.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get better results from your daily ac-

tivities by adding something special to them. Seek pleasures out on the town tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Contact pals you want to have fun with. Keep appointments which you have made. Don't overstep on recreational outings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get the okay of family and friends to do something important. Avoid an associate who wants to pick a fight with you or anyone else.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can write those letters that others will appreciate in the morning. Then enjoy some hobby with a good friend in the afternoon.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) If you study your monetary status early, you can get the exact picture of it and know where you stand. Try to cut down on expenses.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Handle intimate activities in the morning in a positive way. Don't upset anyone at home. Take your mate out for entertainment.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You get an inspired idea in the morning, so do something about it. Then spend the evening quietly and happily at home.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠5653 ♣952 ♠A7 ♣Q193
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q852 ♣952 ♠K6 ♣Q193
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A95 ♣A103 ♠AK5 ♣Q762
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
What do you bid now?

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A95 ♣A103 ♠AK5 ♣Q762
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
What do you bid now?

A95 ♣AK5 ♠A103 ♣Q762
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
What do you bid now?

AJ ♠AQ873 ♣Q102 ♠K6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
What do you bid now?

A95 ♣A103 ♠AK5 ♣Q762
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
What do you bid now?

A95 ♣A103 ♠AK5 ♣Q762
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
What do you bid now?

A95 ♣A103 ♠AK5 ♣Q762
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
What do you bid now?

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ROWNC

ILEEX

DAJEGG

TOXREV



THEY WENT TO THAT ISLAND FOR "TEA" BECAUSE IT WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS.

Now arrange the jumbled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: **TEA**

Yesterday's Jumbles: VAPOR, CABLE, HANDED, FELDING
Answer: The secret agent was always drinking his tea in the middle of the road.